

HARROW ASSOCIATION OF SOMALI VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS (HASVO)

England & Wales · Charity number 1129442

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	05435204
Registered	2009-05-06
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	66 LOWER ROAD South Harrow Middlesex Harrow
Phone	02084235948
Email	info@hasvo.org
Website	www.hasvo.org

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE SOMALI COMMUNITY PRINCIPALLY IN THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW BY ACTING AS AN UMBRELLA BODY FOR LOCAL SOMALI GROUPS WHO HAVE, INPARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, THE FOLLOWING AIMS:THE RELIEF OF POVERTY;THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION;THE PROMOTION OF EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT;THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CAPACITY AND SKILLS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE [SOCIALLY ANDECONOMICALLY] [SOCIALLY] DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY OF IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY ARE BETTERABLE TO IDENTIFY, AND HELP MEET, THEIR NEEDS AND TO PARTICIPATE MORE FULLY IN SOCIETY;THE RELIEF OF SICKNESS;THE PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION OF GOOD HEALTH;THE RELIEF OF UNEMPLOYMENT."

Activities: Provide information & drop in services .Partner other organisations in the field.Provide elderly services for people with cultural and language difficulty.Provide education, training and raising awareness on the practical issues affecting the Arabic & Somali Community in the Borough.Provide advice and advocacy and outreach services.Offer weekend support for young people , elderly and women.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Accommodation/housing, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Amateur Sport, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Recreation, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW
- Barnet
- Brent
- Ealing
- Harrow
- Hillingdon

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£264,000	£250,000	-	-
2024-03-31	£282,000	£232,000	-	-
2023-03-31	£175,354	£170,130	-	-
2022-03-31	£147,648	£156,325	-	-
2021-03-31	£237,000	£179,000	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
CABDULQADIR MOHAMED AFEY	Chair	2013-05-07
AYAN ISMAIL		2013-05-07
OMAR ELMI NOOR		2013-05-07
Samira Hassan		2020-08-20
YUSSUF AHMED		

Accounts



HASVO Annual Report 2024 – 2025

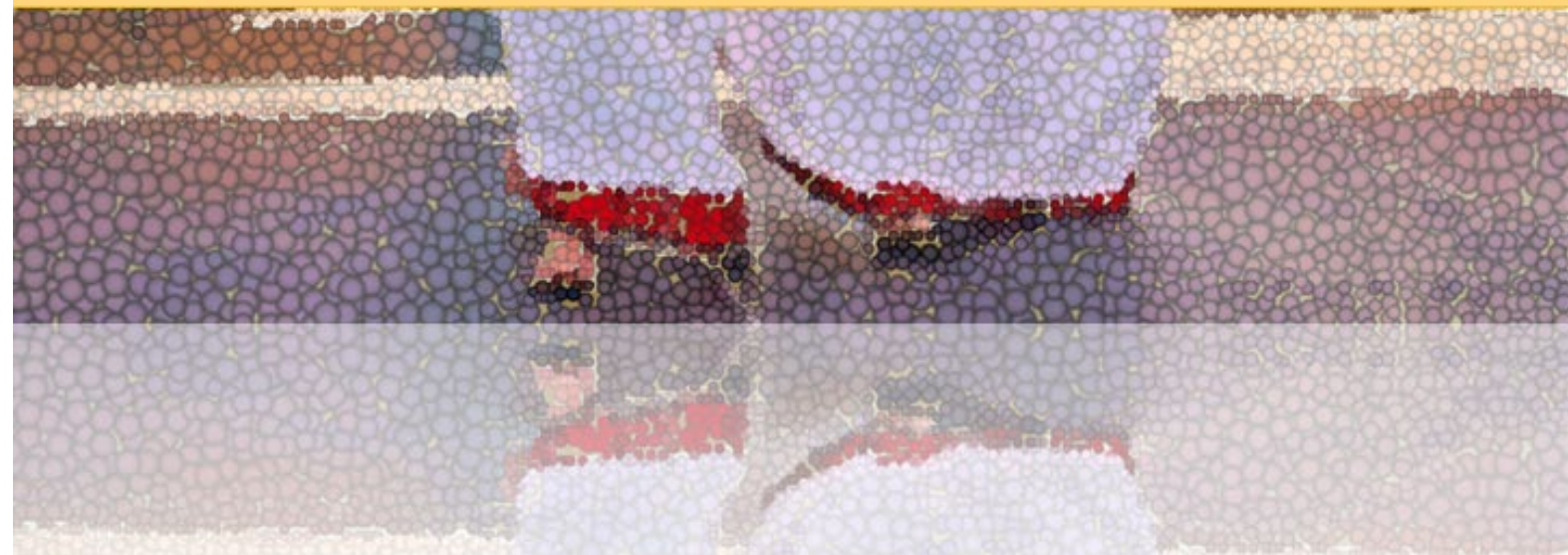


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Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity

Charity name: Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations (HASVO)

Charity registration number: 1129442

Principal address: Printing House 66 Lower Road Harrow, HA2 0DH

HASVO is a registered charity established in 2004 to support Somali, Arabic-speaking, and other disadvantaged refugee and migrant communities living in Harrow and neighbouring boroughs.

Structure, Governance and Management

HASVO is a user-led organisation governed by a Board of Trustees drawn largely from the communities it serves. Trustees are responsible for setting strategic direction, ensuring compliance with charity law, and overseeing financial management and risk.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 10 November 2025, at which officers were elected for a further two-year term. Trustees confirm that appropriate governance, safeguarding, financial controls, and health and safety policies were in place and adhered to throughout the reporting period. There were no significant health and safety incidents or complaints recorded.

The organisation continued to strengthen internal systems and successfully renewed its Matrix Quality Mark during the year, demonstrating its commitment to quality assurance and continuous improvement.

Objectives and Activities

Charitable Objects

HASVO's charitable objects focus on relieving poverty, advancing education, promoting equality and diversity, improving health and wellbeing, and supporting the integration of refugees and migrants.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing HASVO's aims and activities. All services are delivered for the public benefit, particularly targeting individuals and families experiencing disadvantage, exclusion, and inequality.

Main Activities Undertaken

During 2024–25, HASVO delivered a wide range of activities aimed at improving quality of life, preventing crisis, and strengthening community resilience. These included:

- Advice, advocacy, and outreach support
- Youth services, including supplementary education, mentoring, youth club, and holiday activities
- Parenting and family support
- Health and wellbeing promotion
- Prevention of isolation and loneliness, particularly among older people
- Community engagement and partnership working

Achievements and Performance

Overview of Impact

Throughout the reporting period, HASVO continued to operate as a frontline organisation responding to increasing levels of need linked to the cost-of-living crisis, housing insecurity, and health and educational inequalities.

In total, HASVO supported **3,416 cases** across its services, including:

- **Advice, advocacy, and outreach:** 1,816 cases
- **Healthy living and parenting information sessions:** 640 participants across 38 sessions
- **Warm hubs and isolation prevention activities:** 300 participants
- **Housing support and homelessness prevention:** 360 cases
- **Youth activities:** 414 children and young people aged 5–18

These figures reflect both the scale of need locally and HASVO's role as a trusted point of access for communities facing complex challenges.

Drop-in Sessions and Outreach Work (Advice, Advocacy & Information)

Advice, advocacy, and outreach work remained one of HASVO's most critical frontline services during 2024–25. For many community members, HASVO is the first and often only point of trusted contact when facing crisis or navigating complex statutory systems.

HASVO operated open **drop-in advice sessions five days a week (Monday to Friday, 10:00–16:00)**, supported by outreach work for individuals unable to attend in person. During the reporting period, **1,816 advice and advocacy cases** were supported through this service.

The issues presented were often complex and interrelated. Common areas of support included:

- Housing problems, overcrowding, poor conditions, and homelessness prevention
- Welfare benefits advice, form filling, appeals, and mandatory reconsiderations
- Support with Universal Credit, disability benefits, and pension-related issues
- Interpretation and advocacy for GP appointments, hospital letters, and social care correspondence
- Employment advice, confidence-building, and signposting to training opportunities
- Debt advice and referral to specialist agencies
- School-related issues, including exclusions, attendance concerns, and safeguarding

HASVO's culturally and linguistically competent approach allowed staff and volunteers to explain processes clearly, reduce anxiety, and empower individuals to make informed decisions. Many service users had limited literacy or previous negative experiences with statutory services, making trust-based support essential.

Outreach work was particularly important for older people, individuals with mobility issues, and those experiencing acute vulnerability. This included home visits, telephone advocacy, accompaniment to appointments, and coordination with next of kin or support networks. Early intervention through advice and advocacy prevented issues from escalating into crisis, reducing reliance on emergency services and statutory intervention.

This service continues to save both time and public resources, while significantly improving the mental wellbeing, stability, and confidence of individuals and families.

Youth Services

Youth services remained a core area of HASVO's work during 2024–25, addressing educational underachievement, social isolation, and risks of disengagement among children and young people.

During the year, HASVO supported **189 unique children and young people**, with a total of **414 participations** across youth activities.

Supplementary Education

The supplementary education programme supported **59 young people**, exceeding the original target of 50. Delivery focused primarily on Maths and core academic skills. Young people demonstrated improved confidence, engagement, and motivation, while parents reported reduced anxiety and improved attitudes towards learning.

Mentoring Programme

The mentoring programme supported **38 young people** at risk of exclusion or disengagement. Mentors provided consistent guidance, leading to improved behaviour, self-esteem, and communication. In several cases, mentoring helped prevent exclusion and strengthened relationships between families and schools.

Youth Club

The weekly Youth Club engaged **52 young people** from low-income households. It provided a safe, inclusive environment supporting confidence, leadership, and positive peer relationships. Many participants developed a strong sense of belonging and increased willingness to contribute positively to their community.

Holiday Activities

Holiday provision reached **265 young people**, significantly exceeding expectations. These activities reduced isolation during school holidays and provided enriching experiences for children who would otherwise have limited access to structured activities.

Outcomes for Young People

- 89% reported feeling more positive and happier
- 83% reported increased knowledge and skills

Families and Parenting Support

Alongside direct youth work, HASVO supported **123 parents and carers** through parenting workshops, school-based engagement, and one-to-one advocacy. Parents reported increased confidence in supporting their children, improved understanding of the education system, and stronger communication within the family.

This work contributed to more stable home environments and reinforced positive outcomes for children and young people.

Partnership Working: Next Step Partnership

HASVO played an active role in the **Next Step Partnership**, working closely with Whitmore High School and partner organisations to strengthen home–school relationships and provide early intervention.

During the year, HASVO delivered:

- 6 school-based workshops attended by 39 parents and carers
- 7 Parent Champion–led workshops attended by 33 parents and carers
- 28 one-to-one support sessions for parents facing complex challenges

In total, **39 unique parents and carers** were supported, representing **93 young people**. Parents returning from Year 1 were more confident and proactive, and engagement from fathers increased. Notably, **96% of families** were supported without escalation to statutory services, demonstrating the effectiveness of early, community-led intervention.

Health, Wellbeing and Reduction of Isolation

Health inequalities remain a significant challenge for the communities HASVO serves. Many Somali, Arabic-speaking, and newly arrived residents experience higher rates of long-term conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, cardiovascular disease, and mental ill health. These challenges are compounded by poverty, overcrowded housing, trauma, low health literacy, and cultural and language barriers to accessing services.

During 2024–25, HASVO delivered a wide range of health and wellbeing activities aimed at improving access to services, increasing health awareness, and reducing isolation. This work recognised that health outcomes are shaped not only by medical care but by social, economic, and environmental factors.

Key areas of activity included:

Health Information and Awareness

HASVO delivered targeted health information sessions and informal advice on issues such as mental health, diabetes management, cancer screening, vaccinations, and healthy living. Information was shared in culturally appropriate ways, often through trusted community settings, enabling people to better understand prevention, treatment, and available services.

Support with Accessing Health Services

Through its drop-in and outreach work, HASVO supported individuals to register with GPs, understand prescriptions and treatment plans, attend hospital appointments, and engage with follow-up care. Staff and volunteers frequently acted as advocates and interpreters, ensuring that service users were not excluded due to language or system complexity.

Women's Wellbeing and Warm Hubs

Reducing isolation among women and older people was a major focus during the year. HASVO successfully operated women-only wellbeing hubs across multiple locations:

- Fridays and Sundays at the HASVO centre
- Saturdays at Harrow Central Mosque

These sessions provided safe, welcoming spaces for social interaction, peer support, and informal learning. Over **60 women** benefited regularly from these hubs, which helped reduce

loneliness, improve mental wellbeing, and build social networks. The hubs also functioned as warm spaces for those struggling with energy costs.

Older People and Isolation Prevention

Many older refugees face extreme isolation due to language barriers, health conditions, and limited family support. HASVO provided ongoing monitoring and practical support, including help with housing maintenance issues, mobility aids, prescriptions, hospital discharge arrangements, and social care referrals. Volunteers played a key role in maintaining regular contact and ensuring no one was left without support.

Community Trust and Mental Wellbeing

Mental health remained a significant concern within the community, often linked to trauma, displacement, poverty, and ongoing uncertainty. HASVO's trusted presence and holistic approach helped relieve stress and anxiety by addressing urgent practical issues while offering emotional reassurance and culturally sensitive guidance.

Overall, HASVO's health, wellbeing, and isolation-reduction work contributed to improved access to healthcare, reduced loneliness, and greater resilience among individuals and families who might otherwise remain excluded from mainstream services.

Financial Review

The Trustees confirm that the charity remained financially stable throughout the reporting period. Income and expenditure were managed in line with agreed budgets, and appropriate financial controls were maintained. HASVO benefited from continued support from statutory bodies and charitable trusts, enabling it to respond to increased demand.

Plans for Future Periods

Looking ahead, HASVO will continue to:

- Strengthen youth and family support services
- Build on successful partnerships with schools and health services
- Further develop evidence of impact to support long-term sustainability
- Continue advocating for equity, inclusion, and access to services

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. They confirm that the report gives a true and fair view of the charity's activities, achievements, and performance during the year.

Approved by the Board of Trustees

On behalf of Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF HARROW ASSOCIATION OF SOMALI VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION LTD FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required. It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- State whether matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, the independent 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 licensed member of Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT). In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention: (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

(2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached. The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Abdirahman Amin.....
Licensed Association of Accounting Technician
BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance
3 Bob Currie Close Harrow, Middlesex.
HA2 9BF

18/10/2025

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

Description		General Funds	Restricted Funds	2024/25 Total	2023/24 Total
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Grant and Donations	2	88,750	176,115	264,865	281,684
Other Incoming Resources	3	-	-	-	-
Total Incoming Resources		<u>88,750</u>	<u>176,115</u>	<u>264,865</u>	<u>281,684</u>
Resources Expended					
Office Administration and equipment	4	10,701	14,470	25,171	29,378
Estates facilities Cost	5	750	16,509	17,259	13,608
Charitable Expenditure	6	60,809	142,207	203,016	185,601
Accountants and Governance	8	4,959	-	4,959	3246
Total Resources Expended		<u>(77,219)</u>	<u>(173,186)</u>	<u>(250,405)</u>	<u>(231,833)</u>
Incoming/Outgoing Resources Before Transfer		11,531	2,929	14,460	49,851
Funds Brought Forward on 31 March 2024		36,807	120,264	157,071	107,220
Total Funds C/F on 31 March 2025		<u>48,338</u>	<u>123,193</u>	<u>171,531</u>	<u>157,071</u>

Statement of Balance Sheet for the Year Ended 31 March 2025.

Description	Notes	General Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2024/25 Total	2023/24	2023/24 Total
Fixed Assets		£	£		£	£	£
Equipment	13	2215	-		2,215		4,181
Other Fixed Assets		-	-		-		-
Total Fixed Assets		<u>2215</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>2,215</u>		<u>4,181</u>
Current Assets							
Debtors	9	-	-	-		-	
Cash at bank and in hand	10	<u>48,338</u>	<u>123,193</u>	<u>171,531</u>		<u>159,037</u>	
Total Current Assets		<u>48,338</u>	<u>123,193</u>	<u>171,531</u>		<u>159,037</u>	
Creditors Amounts falling due within one year	11	(1,538)	-	<u>(1,538)</u>		<u>(4,326)</u>	
Net Current Assets (Liability)		<u>46,800</u>			169,993		154,711
Total Assets less (Liability)		<u>49,015</u>	<u>123,193</u>		<u>172,208</u>		<u>158,892</u>
Creditors Amounts Falling due after one year	12	(677)			(677)		(5,873)
Net Assets		<u><u>48,338</u></u>	<u><u>123,193</u></u>		<u><u>171,531</u></u>		<u><u>153,019</u></u>

AUDIT EXEMPTION STATEMENT

For the year ending 31 March 2025, the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for its accounts in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

- a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.
- c) These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees.

18/10/2025

Trustees

Director: Cabdulqaadir A Mohamed.....

Trustee: Ahmed Yussuf.....

Date 18/10/2025

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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)) (issued in October 2019)- (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Incoming resources Donations, legacies and other forms of voluntary income are recognised as incoming resources when receivable, except insofar as they are incapable of financial measurement. All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to categories of income: Voluntary income and donations are included in incoming resources when they are receivable, except when the donors specify that they must be used in future accounting periods or certain conditions have not been fulfilled, then the income is deferred. Grants where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

1.3 Resources expended

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them. Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the Independent Examiner's fee and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity. All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource.

1.4 Grants

Grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities on the earlier date of when they are received or when they are receivable unless it is specified that they are for a future accounting period, in which case they are included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be recognised in those future accounting periods.

1.5

Unrestricted funds are the funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

1.6 Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation, Tangible Fixed Assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of each asset over their expected useful life, as follows: Fixtures fittings and equipment: 20% Straight Line Basis

1.6 Financial review: Reserves Policy

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited holds funds from its reserves. The current financial risk is low however the trust has a policy to hold a reserve of £30,000 to cover six month's operating costs.

2	HARROW ASSOCIATION OF SOMALI VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION	
	Grant and donations received	
		£
	Harrow Together	27,378
	Tudor Trust	36,300
	Central Fund	31,875
	Henry Smith	27,600
	NHS NWL	41,125
	Lloyds Foundation	2,500
	Voluntary Action	3,487
	Harrow Council	9,394
	John Lyon	83,500
	Harrow Young Fund	206
	Refugee Action	1,500
		264,865
3	Other Income	-
		-
4	Support Cost	
	Bank Service Charge	334
	Insurance	1,650
	IT Equipment	-
	Volunteer Expenses	210
	Consultancy	3,000
	Administration Cost	15,207
	Depreciation Charge	1,966
	Fund Raising	695
	Workshop and Training	2,110
		25,173
5	Estates facilities cost	
	Rent Expenses	15,005
	Business Rate	919
	Office Cleaning	750
	Telephone Bill	835
	Service Charge -utilities	435

		<u>17,944</u>
6	Charitable Services Cost	
	Charity Workers Expenditure	106,949
	Sessional Charity Workers Expenditure	43,800
	Other Charitable Expenditure	<u>52,267</u>
		<u><u>203,016</u></u>
7	Accountancy and Governance	
	Annual Account	783
	Annual Report Preparation	1,260
	Governance	1,200
	Payroll Preparation	<u>1,716</u>
		4,959
8	Debtors	<u>0</u>
		<u>0</u>
9	Cash	
	Opening Balance	157,071
	Incoming Cash	<u>264,865</u>
		421,936
	Cash Expended	<u>250,405</u>
	Closing Balance	<u><u>171,531</u></u>
10	Creditors Amounts Falling due	
	within one year	<u>1,538</u>
		<u>1,538</u>
11	Creditors Amounts falling	
	Due after one year	<u>677</u>
		<u>677</u>

13. Note
Tangible Fixed Assets
Cost

	£
Cost as of 1 April 2024	9,828
Additions	0
Revaluation	-
Cost as of 31 March 2025	<u>9,828</u>
Depreciation	
Depreciation as of 31 March 2024	5,647
Charges for the period	1,966
On Disposal	<u>0</u>
Total depreciation on 31 March 2025	<u>7,613</u>
Net Book Value on 31 March 2025	<u>2,215</u>
Net Book Value at 31 March 2024	<u><u>4,181</u></u>

Appendix

Introduction of the New Management for the Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations (HASVO)

It's my pleasure to introduce to you here the new members of Management Committee for the Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations.

The new team is elected during our AGM held at the HASVO centre on the 10th of November 2025.

This committee will remain in office for a term of two years. HASVO will continue to forge partnership with the voluntary and statutory organisations in order to achieve durable solutions for the multidimensional problems of this new community.

The list of the newly elected Management committee members are:

Name	Position
Abdulqadir Mohamed Afey	Chair
Ayaan Ismail	Secretary
Ahmed Yussuf	Treasurer
Omer Elmi	Member
Samira Hassan	Member

HASVO's main aims are summarised as follows:

- Provide a voice for Somali Community in the London Borough of Harrow in discussions and negotiations with statutory and voluntary agencies as well as other relevant bodies.
- Encourage, train, build and strengthen the capacity of its member organisations and volunteers so that their services become more appropriate to the needs of the Somali community.
- Provide a network for the dissemination of information, good practice and the sharing of skills in order to develop services for the community.
- Actively promote the valuable contributions, which the Somali community members make to the wider community as a whole.
- Enter into partnerships with appropriate agencies to further the aims of its members and produce tangible benefits for the Somali Community in Harrow.
- Provide a channel for raising issues of concern to the Somali Community and campaign for the rights of the Community.
- Initiate and publish research on the needs of the Somali Community members in Harrow and identify ways of meeting those needs.
- Provide education, training and raising awareness on the practical issues affecting the Somali Community in the Borough.

Our Core Values are:

- Social Justice: enabling the Somali Community members to claim their human rights, meet their needs and have greater control over the decision-making processes which affect their lives.
- Participation: facilitating democratic involvement of the Somali Community in the issues which affect their lives based on full citizenship, autonomy, and shared power, skills, knowledge and experience etc.
- Equality: challenging the attitude of individuals and the practices of institutions and society which discriminate against our marginalized & deprived community in Harrow and beyond.
- Learning: recognising the skills, knowledge and expertise that the Somali Community members can contribute in Harrow and develop ways of taking action to tackle social, economic and political exclusion. Co-operation: promoting joint-
- working with statutory agencies to identify and implement action to meet the needs of the Somali Community in the Borough.

AGM Public Questions and Feedback from Attendees:

During the Meeting, the Chair of the trustees gave a summary of the annual report and the Treasurers account was approved. The Treasurer shared the participants on the progress of financial situation of the organization. He thanked the new funding organizations for their ongoing support (Henry Smith Foundation, Trust for London; Tudor Trust; the John Lyon and the North west London NHS CCG and Harrow Council.

Both leaders stated that there have been remarkable improvements made in the areas of healthy living, employment and access to basic rights for the new arrivals who are mainly Arabic speakers and the old migrants.

The Coordinator have highlighted the important role this organization fulfills for the borough wide service delivery, community cohesion, and bridging of gaps in equality and integration of new groups.

The youth coordinator shared slides of the hidden issues that the community needs to combat together and air their voices as a community for the common issues that affect us all.

The leaders have noted the increasing number of non-Somali beneficiaries especially from the Mediterranean and the east European countries and EU citizens. Some of these groups are presenting circumstances/situations that Somali community have dealt ten to fifteen years ago. This certainly presents the demand for more resources and resilience from the volunteers and organisation to adjust to meeting such needs as a public body.

Public Points raised:

- Support by HASVO is second to none and has reached Arabic speakers from other boroughs
- Another client stated that although Somalis are not used to praise each other, its nevertheless time to say the reality about the outcomes and benefits of your contributions for the community. We have been blessed to have this organisation, volunteers and staff in Harrow.

Accounts

HASVO Annual Report

2023-2024



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Background Introduction

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations (HASVO) is a registered charity which supports Somali and Arabic speakers, refugees and disadvantaged migrants in Harrow. HASVO's aims are to increase cohesion and volunteering, promote healthy living and prevent substance misuse, improve disadvantaged people's quality of life through advocacy, advice, increase youth achievement, and support training and employment.

Although HASVO started as a BME –Somali Organisation in 2004, we nevertheless have become a multi-ethnic service provider in the Northwest Boroughs of London. The largest non -Somali beneficiaries remain the new migrants from the Mediterranean Region and those families arriving from mainland Europe. These groups account for more than 38% of the total beneficiaries.

This year we were able to support through our different activities a total of 5600 cases from **2897** beneficiaries.

Those people accessed our different and comprehensive activities i.e. drop-ins, outreach, warm hubs; school/youth activities support and information sessions.

1. Summary of services and activities during the year:

HASVO's offices serve as a central hub for local individuals and groups addressing various issues. Over this reporting year, our services have benefited **2,897** people:

- More than 1,680 individuals had their issues in areas such as benefits, health, housing, education, and employment resolved through our advice and advocacy sessions.
- Over 167 isolated Somali and Arabic speakers experienced improved wellbeing and reduced isolation through our warm hubs and women-only groups, with an average of 54 females attending these weekly gatherings.
- More than 720 people achieved better physical and mental health after receiving support and information on topics such as IAPT, vision care, hearing loss, diabetes, chronic illnesses, fall prevention, substance misuse, and healthy eating. They also participated in our weekly walking sessions.
- 280 young Somali and Arabic-speaking youth benefited from our one-on-one support, sports activities, and weekly evening meetings and sessions. Our ongoing weekly tuition support and homework club also provided valuable assistance.
- 70 families benefited from our parenting programme in partnership with Whitmore High school; Ignite and Wish centre.

2. The need for our work

We support socially excluded Somali and Arabic refugees and immigrants from the London Borough of Harrow and Northwest London. Many of our clients are new arrivals who have come to the UK in the last five years. They face multiple challenges, including poverty due to unemployment or insecure labour, often stemming from a lack of English language skills, local knowledge, and relevant skills. Additionally, cultural norms restrict women's roles in wider society.

We adopt a holistic approach to support individuals through various interventions. Our services address a wide range of issues, including school, benefits, employment, and health, fostering a positive environment for community progress through our advice, advocacy, and outreach support. Community empowerment and development are achieved through our bi-weekly, weekly, monthly, and annual events, as well as our informal comprehensive assessments of individual and household needs during drop-in sessions.

When comparing the poverty and living standards in our community to the average across all London Boroughs, some notable differences emerge for 2023/4.. The child poverty rate, after housing costs, stands at 31%, slightly below the London average of 32%. Income deprivation in our area is relatively lower, with a score of 0.82 compared to the London average of 1. Pay inequality is marginally higher, with an 80:20 earnings ratio of 2.51, just above the average of 2.48 across London. Additionally, the overall poverty rate in our community is 22%, which is significantly lower than the London average of 25.93%. These statistics highlight that, while our community faces significant challenges, it fares slightly better in certain areas compared to the broader London context.

Although Harrow is often seen as affluent, it has pockets of deprivation, particularly in the wards of South Harrow, Wealdstone, and Edgware, where most of our service users reside. Our organization has consistently fulfilled its role as a frontline voluntary entity in the Borough of Harrow and neighbouring boroughs, demonstrating year after year that our work benefits the community.

The trustees are pleased to report that project outcomes and organizational objectives have been successfully achieved, and that key financial and organizational policies have been diligently observed. Furthermore, there have been no major or minor incidents related to health and safety, nor any significant concerns or complaints recorded.

Among the 2,897 people we supported last year:

- 68% were female
- 84% were aged over 18 years old
- 47% were unemployed
- 53% were employed but in low-paid and low-skilled occupations, with an average income of £637 per month
- 23% were registered disabled

Most of our clients live in poorer wards such as Stanmore Park, Roxbourne, Edgware, and Wealdstone. These areas suffer from poor-quality housing, crime, anti-social behavior, lower life expectancy, and other social issues.

At the forefront of addressing community challenges, our work is dedicated to improving lives and fostering integration into the wider community. We are a user-led organization with a board, staff team, and volunteers who originate from the very community we support. This unique perspective ensures that our efforts are grounded in real, lived experiences.

We also host numerous consultation events and feedback sessions to ensure our services align with the needs of our beneficiaries, leading to positive, impactful changes in their lives. By prioritizing a community-driven approach, we are able to effectively address issues, build trust, and empower individuals to thrive within their local environment.

The individuals we support face numerous challenges, including poverty; in 2023/24, 47% of our clients were unemployed, and those who were employed had an average monthly income of £612. Overcrowded and poor-quality housing remains a significant issue, contributing to a high death rate during the COVID-19. The lack of adequate housing and tenancy security adversely affects the lives and development of children, impacting their school achievements. This year, Arabic speakers and mainland Europeans have accounted for 38% of our total beneficiaries, reflecting increased immigration and associated challenges.

Our projects have proven effective, saving both time and money while significantly contributing to the mental wellbeing of families and individuals. Without our services, many would face further difficulties and debt, underscoring the critical role we play in supporting our community.

Moreover, mental health is a significant concern in this community, partly due to traumatic historical experiences and the relative poverty and challenges faced here. We strive to foster positive thinking and alleviate pressing issues. Our activities are often praised for their soothing effect and stress relief in areas such as debt, schooling, housing, and benefits. Although our solutions are at a primary level, they offer distinct advantages over mainstream agencies by addressing the complexities of formalities, cultural and language barriers, and long waiting times that people typically encounter.

3. How we help

HASVO offers a broad spectrum of practical services aimed at supporting disadvantaged individuals. Our small staff team, alongside over 15 volunteers, delivers these services from our office located near social housing estates in Roxbourne. We also partner with several local charities including Harrow Mind, Community Connex, Harrow Law Centre, Citizen Advice Harrow, Harrow Voluntary Action Group, Harrow Carers, Ignite, Wish Centre, and local schools, as well as statutory bodies like Harrow Council and the CCG.

Our services are available face-to-face during drop-in sessions from Monday to Thursday, with additional appointments and support organized on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays in response to the increased demand brought on by the cost of living crisis. We also extend our support through outreach services, telephone consultations, and via Zoom or WhatsApp groups.

The nature and demand of issues faced by the BME community have evolved over time and with social mobility. Currently, the primary concerns include debt, employment, income, poverty, health issues, and preventive medicine. Arabic-speaking service users, particularly women, encounter additional challenges in integrating and adapting to changes.

The growing reliance on online services has introduced new difficulties for our new communities, who often lack literacy skills and struggle with using phones or remembering passwords. This has led to an increase in both the frequency and duration of contact per service user, with some seeking help for even minor enquiries.

Our activities include:

- **Employability sessions.** We offer training and job search sessions as we firmly believe that this is the best way to deal with poverty, and also because clients want it. This programme includes ICT training, online job search, access to volunteering, explaining the UK jobs market, linking with employment agencies, writing CVs, interview practice, and providing references. We have had a lot of success in helping clients enter the care sector as a first position, and then offer ongoing support to help them build their skills or set up their own businesses after gaining experience. 108 people benefitted from these sessions in the last year.
- **Drop-in sessions;** We offer free advice over benefits and access to rights, sign-posting to other service providers, support on completing forms and translation, help with negotiating debts, assisting people to access housing, and enabling people with disabilities or poor mental health to access medical services. The whole programme supported 1439 people five days a week last year, and has been vastly oversubscribed as a result of and cost of living rises.
- **Information sessions;** We run a wide variety of one-off half-day information sessions on health issues such as diabetes or the need to get the Covid-19 jab, substance misuse, healthy living and eating healthily, access to housing, parenting, home care and support of the elderly & Mental health. These sessions help clients to improve their health, inform them of where they can get support, enhance their parenting skills and empower them to make appropriate decisions about life and healthy living. 520 people were supported by these sessions in this reporting year. Lifestyle factors are a major issue, with limited focus on identifying 'at-risk' populations. The prevalence of diabetes, cardiovascular disease and associated deaths can be significantly reduced through physical activity. It is estimated that around 14.2% of the new diabetes cases in Harrow could be prevented if adults are 100% active, and 5.6% prevented if adults are 50% active. Only 76.9% of people do any walking at least once a week which is below the England average of 80.6%, Harrow is 2nd lowest in

London. Another contributing factor to poor diet, exercise and general health is the high level of deprivation in parts of the borough (the most deprived in the UK are 2.5x more likely to have diabetes). People living in the 20% most deprived neighbourhoods in England are 56% more likely to have diabetes than those living in the least deprived areas [JSNA refresh]. There is limited patient education and poor uptake of relevant services. There is low awareness and uptake of relevant local services providing behaviour changes or preventative services such as physical activity and healthy eating, as well as services including diabetic eye screening, structured education programmes and psychological support. A fundamental work of the NHS HASVO partnership Project is to help this community to benefit and access the same level of health care with the rest of the population and thus bridging the health indicator and healthy living gaps of the communities living in the same Borough. Changing attitudes and behaviour practices take a bit longer than project cycles, but we are grateful for the approaches and resources invested in this direction by the team in partnership with the public health Harrow and NWL NHS.

- Education services for young people; We provide a term-time weekly supplementary education school which focuses on Maths tuition and has the NRCSE Quality Mark. We have a weekly youth group that raises awareness against extremism, gangs and tackling youth hopelessness. During the holidays we offer sports, crafts and trips for young people and their families. We are working in two schools to empower parents to support their children and work positively with the schools for a successful educational outcome for their children. We are currently running a project in partnership with Whitmore high school; Ignite and Wish Centre to ensure better outcomes for the BME children and enable parents to work better with schools and get involved in their children's education.
- Reduction of isolation and improving social networks; We help older people each year through outreach support, arts and crafts groups, luncheon club, and advice and advocacy. Since the post Covid-19, we run three different warm hub and social gathering groups during Fridays; Saturdays and Sundays. This service supports over 54 individuals weekly and over 74 people each year. As part of the local warm hubs in the Borough participants also benefit from public Health winter information; Health check ups and food basket supplies.

4. Our track record

HASVO has been serving the community for nearly 20 years, gaining extensive experience in assisting local residents. We hold several quality marks, including the Matrix Standard for our advice work and the NRCSE Quality Mark for our supplementary school. Our staff and trustees are members of the community we serve, allowing us to

communicate in their home languages, understand their needs and cultural norms, and gain their trust.

HASVO is unique in Harrow for our dedicated service to the Somali and Arabic communities. We are the only organization with the necessary language skills, lived experience, reach, and cultural sensitivity to support these communities effectively. We operate a well-regarded warm hub, with staff now available on weekends to address issues related to the cost of living and provide health winter messages from the NWL NHS.

We collaborate closely with local organizations such as Harrow Citizens Advice Bureau, facilitating client referrals. At a strategic level, we are active members of Harrow Community Health Touchpoint, a weekly meeting group that includes the local council, CCG, and various VCS groups, including HASVO. These meetings enable us to respond swiftly to community issues. Additionally, we are part of the Harrow Advice Network, chaired by the Harrow Law Centre.

Harrow has wards such as Roxbourne which are in the top 20% deprived in the country. They have large numbers of social housing, and residents who are working in low paid insecure occupations or who are unemployed. As such they are vulnerable and are highly vulnerable to the current cost of living price rises, and we know from the growth in the number of people we are seeing, and the increasing complexity of their needs, that they are being severely impacted. HASVO is in a good place to help them as we are located close to these wards, and have a Matrix accredited trained advice team in place. We serve over 2000 people each year, so we are well known, and many clients refer others to us for help. These connections into deprived communities and the fact that we are trusted by clients, mean that many agencies such as Harrow Integrated Care Partnership and Harrow Council see us as key in helping them to access isolated local residents. The gap we therefore particularly meet is that we help disadvantaged people who are particularly hard to reach. The cost of living crisis has further exacerbated the situation like the rest of the UK with more people telling us that they are finding it hard to pay the bills, and they need help with crisis support, accessing complex welfare benefits, or help with debt particularly with utilities. We have shown resilience and the capacity to adjust to the effects of the economic down turns that shook the nation which is impacting on our clients.

HASVO is well-positioned to assist, given our proximity to these wards and our Matrix-accredited advice team. Each year, we serve nearly 3000 people, making us well-known and trusted within the community. Many clients refer others to us for support. These strong connections with deprived communities and the trust we have earned mean that agencies like Harrow Integrated Care Partnership and Harrow Council view us as essential in reaching isolated local residents. We specialize in supporting disadvantaged individuals who are particularly hard to reach.

The cost of living crisis has further exacerbated the situation, with more people struggling to pay their bills and seeking assistance for crisis support, complex welfare benefits, or debt management, particularly regarding utility bills.

During this reporting period, we received funding from the NHS Northwest London CCG, Trust for London, The Henry Smith Foundation, Tudor Trust, Harrow Council, Lottery Community Grant, and Young Harrow Foundation. Migrant Justice, John Lyon, The Lloyds Bank Foundation as well as small funds through the Harrow Voluntary sector.

These resources enabled HASVO to continue offering comprehensive services to new and existing refugees and migrants in Harrow and neighbouring boroughs in west London. Building strong communities requires resources, especially a dedicated focus on establishing teams whose primary role is fostering integration. Designated funding from councils and major charitable organizations can bridge the gap between areas with strong social capital and those without. This investment is likely to yield broader benefits as community members become more resilient, trusting, optimistic, and open.

Small and medium organizations such as HASVO play a crucial role in reaching areas that larger entities cannot. The coronavirus pandemic has amplified and accelerated the challenges related to public trust. As the economic impact continues to unfold, feelings of detachment within communities are likely to intensify. To address and rebuild this trust, it is imperative to give communities a voice through approaches that foster community engagement, empowerment, and ownership.

5. Standard/Quality of services is provided:

During this reporting year, we successfully renewed our Matrix Quality Mark and enhanced the training and skills of our staff and volunteers to address the evolving needs of our clients and meet service level agreement standards and policies.

Our staff completed courses in Universal Credit Managed Migration, Personal Independent Payment, Universal Credit Calculations, Level 5 Diploma in Leadership and Management for Adult Care, Preparing for an Appeal Tribunal, Housing Law and Advice, Homelessness and Allocation Law, and Housing and Mental Health.

We remain an active partner in local affairs, collaborating with the police, Council, and Voluntary sector, and attending all sessions of the community leaders meetings organized by the council to discuss issues of community cohesion and crime prevention.

All current trustees receive regular annual in-house and external training on safeguarding and charity management roles. Safeguarding courses are provided by the local Voluntary Action Harrow Group, of which we are a member. Our staff and volunteers attend

safeguarding courses organized and run by the Voluntary Action Harrow Group. They are all DBS checked and receive in-house performance assessments and guidance on health, safety, and other safeguarding policies.

All our charitable activities are described in our objectives and focus on implementing supportive and enabling activities that help harrow communities to enjoy life in full and to reduce /bridge the gaps that are inherent in our societies as well as those originating from skills and knowledge gap between groups and communities.

The Harrow central Mosque has provided a space for thirty women for four hours every Saturday and two small groups use the HASVO centre for Sunday and Fridays.

We believe these interactions are a positive contribution for peer learning and prevents isolation thus improving mental wellbeing. During this year the number of Arabic speakers and mainland Europeans have reached 38% of the total beneficiaries. As a result of the increased issues of immigration brought on by this new influx.

Our projects have saved both money and time and contributed to the mental wellbeing of families and individuals who without this level of service are in further difficulties and debt.

6. Involving the local community

HASVO is very much a user led organisation and involve clients in a number of ways:

- There are user representatives on the Board of Trustees, who have a say in the development of Services.
- Members of our staff share the same language and cultural backgrounds of our users, thus can relate to them effectively.
- We recruit Volunteers from our community each year to support the project. They are all fully trained and supervised.
- We have off-site and online consultations to gain their opinions on activities and feedback on our work.
- Individual users are fully consulted regarding the tailored support each receives. they sign off all action plans.

Monitoring feedback results shows that 98% of clients attending our advice sessions were satisfied with the outcome, 89% of people attending our employment sessions considered they were better placed for employment, and 94% of attendees at our information sessions reported that the support and information provided enable them to "make a more informed decision".

HARROW ASSOCIATION OF SOMALI
VOLUNTRY ORGANISATIONS
LIMITED.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31
MARCH 2024

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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CHARITY INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Status: The organisation is charitable company limited by guarantee incorporated on 26 April 2005.

Governing Documents: The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established under the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. Under this article, the members of the board are elected at the AGM to serve of the period of two years. Charity

Number: 1129442

Company Number 5435204

Registered Office
Operational Office 66
Lower Road Harrow
Middlesex HA2 0HD

Operational Office 66
Lower Road Harrow
Middlesex HA2 0HD

Banker
Lloyds Bank Wembley
Branch Middlesex

Banker
Bank of Ireland 7
St Johns Road
Harrow Middlesex

Independent Examiner
MAAT Abdirahman Amin 83
High Street
Harlesden NW10
4NT

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

At the time of approving the financial statements, trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company 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.

The trustees of Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law. Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity and the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgement and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- Prepare the financial statements on going concern bases unless it's inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with companies ACT 2006. 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.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies' regime in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006, and in accordance with the governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 – effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Financial Review

For the year ended 31 March 2024, HASVO LIMITED received total sum of £281,684 of which £210,725 was restricted funds and £71,409 unrestricted funds. Total expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2024 was £231,833 (£176,004 restricted funds and £55,829 was unrestricted funds).

Financial Review

For the year ended 31 March 2024, HASVO LIMITED received total sum of £281,684 of which £210,725 was restricted funds and £71,409 unrestricted funds. Total expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2024 was £231,833 (£176,004 restricted funds and £55,829 was

unrestricted funds).

Trustees

Director: Cabdulqaadir A Mohamed

Trustee: Ahmed Yusuf.....

Date 10/12/2024

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.....

Independent Examiners Appointed

MAAT. Abdirahman Amin was appointed as the charity independent examiner during the year and has expressed his willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 10 December 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF HARROW ASSOCIATION OF SOMALI VOLUNTRY ORGANISATION LTD FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required. It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- State whether matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

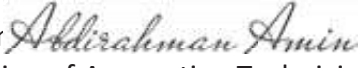
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, the independent 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 Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT). In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

(2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached. The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Abdirahman Amir 
Licensed Association of Accounting Technician
BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance

16/12/2024

83 High Street, Harlesden
NW10 4SJ

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

Description		General Funds	Restricted Funds	2024/23 Total	2023/22 Total
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Grant and Donations	2	71,409	210,275	281,684	175,354
Other Incoming Recourses	3	–	–	–	–
Total Incoming Recourses		<u>71,409</u>	<u>210,275</u>	<u>281,684</u>	<u>175,354</u>
Recourses Expended					
2,920.00		29,378	40,070		
13,608		13,608	12,476		
159,476		185,601	116,970		
–		3,246	1176		
<u>(176,004)</u>		<u>(231,833)</u>	<u>(170,692)</u>		
Office Administration and equipment	4	26,458			
Estates facilities Cost	5				
	–				
Charitable Expenditure	6	26,125.00			
Accountants and Governance	8	<u>3,246</u>			
Total Resources Expended		<u>(55,829)</u>			
15,580		34,271	49,851	4,662	
21,227		85,993	107,220	102,558	
Incoming Outgoing Recourses Before Transfer					
Funds Brought Forward on 31 March					
2023					
Total Funds C/F on 31 March 2024		<u>36,807</u>	<u>120,264</u>	<u>157,071</u>	<u>107,220</u>

Statement of Balance Sheet for the Year Ended 31 March 2024.

Description	Notes	General Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2024/23 Total	2023/22 Total
Fixed Assets		£	£		£	£
Equipment	13	4181	0		4,181	6,147
Other Fixed Assets		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Fixed Assets		4181	0		4,181	6,147
Current Assets						
Debtors	9	–	–	–	–	–
Cash at bank and in hand	10	<u>18,537</u>	<u>140,500</u>	<u>159,037</u>	<u>109,186</u>	<u>109,186</u>
Total Current Assets		18,537	140,500	159,037	109,186	
Creditors Amounts falling due within one year	11	(4,326)		<u>(4,326)</u>	<u>(4,320)</u>	
Net Current Assets (Liability)		14,211			154,711	<u>104,866</u>
Total Assets less (Current Liability)		18,392	140,500		158,892	111,013
Creditors Amounts falling due after one year	12	(5,873)	–		(5,873)	(3,793)
Net Assets		<u>12,519</u>	<u>140,500</u>		<u>153,019</u>	<u>107,220</u>

AUDIT EXCEMPTTION STATEMENT

For the year ending 31 March 2024, the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for its accounts in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of records.

- a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.
- c) These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees.

20/08/2024

Trustees

Director: Cabdulqaadir A Mohamed.....

Trustee: Ahmed Yusuf.....

Date 10/12/2024

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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)) (issued in October 2019)– (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Incoming resources Donations, legacies and other forms of voluntary income are recognised as incoming resources when receivable, except insofar as they are incapable of financial measurement. All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to categories of income: Voluntary income and donations are included in incoming resources when they are receivable, except when the donors specify that they must be used in future accounting periods or certain conditions have not been fulfilled, then the income is deferred. Grants where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

1.3 Resources expended

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the Independent Examiner's fee and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource.

1.4 Grants

1.4.1.

Grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities on the earlier date of when they are received or when they are receivable unless it is specified that they are for a future accounting period, in which case they are included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be recognised in those future accounting periods.

1.4.2

Unrestricted funds are the funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

1.5 Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation, Tangible Fixed Assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of each asset over their expected useful life, as follows: Fixtures fittings and equipment: 20% Straight Line Basis

1.6 Financial review: Reserves Policy

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited holds funds from its reserves. The current financial risk is low however the trust has a policy to hold a reserve of £30,000 to cover six month's operating cost

2 HARROW ASSOCIATION OF SOMALI VOLUNTRY ORGANISATION

Grant and donations received

	£
Harrow Council	5,825.00
CCG-NHS	17,250.00
Henry Smith	27,100.00
Trust For London	12,750.00
Tudor Trust	35,000.00
Refugee Action	38,299.00
Lloyds Bank	50,000.00
Harrow Giving	12,960.00
Leather Sellers	5,000.00
John Lyon	77,500.00
Grants and Donations	<u>281,684.00</u>

3	Other Income	<u>0</u>
		<u>0</u>

4 **Support Cost**

Bank Service Charge	2,980.00
Insurance	960.00
IT Equipment	996.00
Volunteer Expenses	6,560.00
Publicity	4,365.00
Administration Cost	6,740.00
Depreciation Charge	1,966.00
Fund Raising	3,693.00
Workshop and Training	<u>1,118.00</u>
	<u>29,378.00</u>

5	Estates facilities cost	
	Rent Expenses	8,685.00
	Council Tax (Harrow Council)	1,554.00
	Office Cleaning	1,344.00
	Telephone Bill	375.00
	Service Charge –utilities	<u>1,650.00</u>
		<u>13,608.00</u>
6	Charitable Services Cost	
	Charity Workers Expenditure	106,949.00
	Sessional Charity Workers Expenditure	32,527.00
	Other Charitable Expenditure	<u>46,125.00</u>
		<u>185,601.00</u>
7	Accountancy and Governance	
	Annual Account Preparation	1,470.00
	Governance	345.00
	Payroll Preparation	<u>1,431.00</u>
		<u>3,246.00</u>
8	Debtors	<u>0</u>
		<u>0</u>
9	Cash	
	Opening Balance	107,220.00
	Incoming Cash	<u>282,104.00</u>
		389,324.00
	Cash Expended	<u>232,253.00</u>
	Closing Balance	<u>157,071.00</u>
10	Creditors Amounts Falling due	
	within one year	<u>4,326.00</u>
		<u>4,326.00</u>
11	Creditors Amounts falling	
	Due after one year	<u>5,873.00</u>
		<u>5,873.00</u>

Tangible Fixed Assets**Cost**

	£
Cost on 1 April 2023	9,828
Additions	0
Revaluation	-

Cost on 31 March 2023	9,828
-----------------------	-------

Depreciation

Depreciation on 31 March 2023	3,681
Charges for the period	1,966
On Disposal	0
Total depreciation on 31 March 2024	5,647

Net Book Value on 31 March 2024	4,181
--	--------------

Net Book Value on 31 March 2023	6,147
--	--------------

Accounts

[ANNUAL REPORT]

[2022-23]

Harrow Association of
Somali Voluntary Organisations



Supporting
the

Community

since 2004



**Harrow Association of
Somali Voluntary Organisations**



Printing House
66 Lower Road
Harrow
HA2 0DH

Tel: 020 8423 5948
WWW.HASVO.ORG

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1. Background Introduction

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations (HASVO) is a registered charity that supports Somali and Arabic speakers, refugees and disadvantaged migrants in Harrow. HASVO aims to increase cohesion and volunteering, promote healthy living and prevent substance misuse, improve disadvantaged people's quality of life through advocacy, advice, increase youth achievement, and support training and employment.

This year we have seen an increased number of service users from the Arabic-speaking Community with the non-Somali speakers making 27% of the total supported.

We supported 2384 people through our different and comprehensive activities i.e. drop-ins, outreach, warm hubs; school/youth activities support and information sessions. A detailed description of these will be discussed in this report in later parts.

2. Summary of services and activities during the year:

HASVO's offices act as a hub for local people and groups facing a number of different issues.

Our services provided the following benefits to 2384 people and 4052 cases during this reporting year:

- Over 1280 people had their issues in areas such as benefits, health, housing, education, and employment resolved through the provision of our advice and advocacy sessions.
- Over 74 isolated Somali and Arabic speakers had their well-being improved due to being less isolated through our warm hubs and women's only groups. Averages of 54 females have access to these weekly women-only gatherings.
- Over 520 people gained better physical and mental health after gaining support and information on various topics such as IAPT and taking part in our weekly walking sessions; healthy vision; hearing loss; diabetes and chronic illnesses ; prevention of Falls; substance misuse, and healthy eating.
- 435 young Somali and Arabic-speaking young people have benefitted from our youth services of one to one support, sports, and weekly evening meetings and sessions. Our weekly tuition support and home work club is on going.

-
- Parenting courses were run in partnership with Ignite and Harrow Council and there were 25 parent champions trained through the course of the project who trained 50 parents on skills on parenting and youth support.

3. The need for our work

We support socially excluded Somali and Arabic refugees and immigrants from the London Borough of Harrow and Northwest London. Many of them are new arrivals who have come to the UK in the last five years. They face a number of issues including poverty caused by unemployment or insecure labour which is caused by lack of English language, lack of local knowledge and skills, and a culture that leads to women having a restricted role in wider society. Covid-19 had a terrible impact upon our clients and this has been exacerbated by cost of living rises.

Statistics from the 2384 people supported last year shows that 63% were female, 82 % were aged over 18 years old, 43% were unemployed, 57% were employed but in low paid and low skilled occupations with an average income of £612 per month and 23% were registered disabled.

The majority live in poorer wards such as Stanmore Park, Roxbourne, Edgware, and Wealdstone. These areas have large numbers of poor-quality housing, crime and anti-social behaviour, lower life expectancy, and other issues.

4. How we help

HASVO provides a wide range of practical services to support disadvantaged people. They are provided by our small staff team supported by over 15 volunteers from our office which is close to social housing estates in Roxbourne. We also work in partnership with numerous other local charities such as Harrow Mind; Community Connex; Harrow Law Centre; Citizen Advice Harrow; Harrow Voluntary Action Group; Harrow Carers; Ignite; Wish Centre ; Schools as well as statutory organisations such as Harrow Council and CCG.

Services are offered face-to-face through our drop-in sessions between Monday and Thursday with an additional appointments and support now organised on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays as a result of the cost of living crisis increased demand. Moreover, we provide support through our outreach services; over the telephone, and also using zoom or WhatsApp groups.

The demand and nature of issues experienced by the BME community grew up with the time and social mobility. For example; the key current issues are; Debt; Employment, incomes, Poverty and health issues and preventive medicine. Our Arabic speaking service users have additional barriers of integrating and coping with change specially females.

The greater use of online services has created new challenges for the new communities who are often illiterate or no skills and ability to use their phones or remember passwords. This situation has increased the number of times and length of contact per service user with some of them bringing every little question or enquiry in their UC .

Our activities include:

- **Employability sessions:** We offer training and job search sessions as we firmly believe that this is the best way to deal with poverty, and also because clients want it. This programme includes ICT training, online job search, access to volunteering, explaining the UK jobs market, linking with employment agencies, writing CVs, interview practice, and providing references. We have had a lot of success in helping clients enter the care sector as a first position, and then offer ongoing support to help them build their skills or set up their own businesses after gaining experience. 94 people benefitted from these sessions in the last year.
- **Drop-in sessions:** We offer free advice over benefits and access to rights, sign-posting to other service providers, support on completing forms and translation, help with negotiating debts, assisting people to access housing, and enabling people with disabilities or poor mental health to access medical services. The whole programme supported 1439 people five days a week last year, and has been vastly oversubscribed as a result of and cost of living rises.

-
- **Information sessions:** We run a wide variety of one-off half-day information sessions on health issues such as diabetes or the need to get the Covid-19 jab, substance misuse, healthy living and eating healthily, access to housing, parenting, home care and support of the elderly & Mental health. These sessions help clients to improve their health, inform them of where they can get support, enhance their parenting skills and empower them to make appropriate decisions about life and healthy living. 520 people were supported by these sessions in this reporting year. Lifestyle factors are a major issue, with limited focus on identifying 'at-risk' populations.

The prevalence of diabetes, cardiovascular disease and associated deaths can be significantly reduced through physical activity. It is estimated that around 14.2% of the new diabetes cases in Harrow could be prevented if adults are 100% active, and 5.6% prevented if adults are 50% active. Only 76.9% of people do any walking at least once a week which is below the England average of 80.6%, Harrow is 2nd lowest in London. Another contributing factor to poor diet, exercise and general health is the high level of deprivation in parts of the borough (the most deprived in the UK are 2.5x more likely to have diabetes). People living in the 20% most deprived neighbourhoods in England are 56% more likely to have diabetes than those living in the least deprived areas [JSNA refresh]. There is limited patient education and poor uptake of relevant services. There is low awareness and uptake of relevant local services providing behaviour changes or preventative services such as physical activity and healthy eating, as well as services including diabetic eye screening, structured education programmes and psychological support. A fundamental work of the NHS HASVO partnership Project is to help this community to benefit and access the same level of health care with the rest of the population and thus bridging the health indicator and healthy living gaps of the communities living in the same Borough. Changing attitudes and behaviour practices take bit longer than project cycles, but we are grateful for the approaches and resources invested in this direction by the team in partnership with the public health Harrow and NWL NHS.

- **Education services for young people:** We provide a term-time weekly supplementary education school which focusses on Maths tuition and has the NRCSE Quality Mark. We have a weekly youth group that raises awareness against extremism, gangs and tackling youth hopelessness. During the holidays we offer sports, crafts and trips for young people and their families. We are working in two schools to empower parents to support their children and work positively with the schools for a successful educational outcomes for their children. During the last few years since the Covid 19 pandemic ,the local council and John Lyon Charity have supported HASVO on

initiatives of family and youth activities in order to reduce and combat the impact of the pandemic among the vulnerable communities.

We have organised and successfully implemented a two year project in partnership with Harrow Council and Ignite which have won praise from the community and beneficiaries of parent champion programme.

- **Reduction of isolation and improving social networks:** We help older people each year through outreach support, arts and crafts groups, luncheon club, and advice and advocacy. Since the post Covid-19, we run three different warm hub and social gathering groups during Fridays; Saturdays and Sundays. This service supports over 54 individuals weekly and over 74 people each year. As part of the local warm hubs in the Borough participants also benefit from public Health winter information; Health check ups and food basket supplies.

Our track record

HASVO has been in existence for 19 years and has built up extensive experience in helping local people. We hold a number of quality marks such as the Matrix Standard for our advice work and the NRCSE Quality Mark for our supplementary school. Our staff and trustees come from the Community we serve, so we can speak their home languages, understand their needs, and the issues affecting them, understand cultural norms and trusted.

HASVO is unique in Harrow as we particularly serve the Somali and Arabic communities and are the only organisation that has the language skills, lived experience, reach, and cultural sensitivity to do that effectively. We run a warm hub which is highly appreciated, and our staff are now dropping during the weekends to support them on issues related to cost of living as well as provision of health winter messages from the NWL NHS.

We do work closely with local organisations such as Harrow Citizens Advice Bureau for example in cross referring clients . We also work at a strategic level in the Borough; for example we are active members of Harrow Community Health Touchpoint which is a weekly meeting group involving the local council, CCG, and a number of VCS groups including HASVO. These weekly meetings have enabled us to respond quickly to problems affecting people. We are a member of the Harrow Advice Network chaired by the Harrow Law Centre.

Harrow has wards such as Roxbourne which are in the top 20% deprived in the country. They have large numbers of social housing, and residents who are working in low paid insecure occupations or who are unemployed. As such they are vulnerable and are highly vulnerable to the current cost of living price rises, and we know from the growth in the number of people we are seeing, and the increasing complexity of their needs, that they are being severely impacted.

HASVO is in a good place to help them as we are located close to these wards, and have a Matrix accredited trained advice team in place. We serve over 2000 people each year, so we are well known, and many clients refer others to us for help. These connections into deprived communities and the fact that we are trusted by clients, mean that many agencies such as Harrow Integrated Care Partnership and Harrow Council see us as key in helping them to access isolated local residents. The gap we therefore particularly meet is that we help disadvantaged people who are particularly hard to reach.

The cost of living crisis has further exacerbated the situation like the rest of the UK with more people telling us that they are finding it hard to pay the bills, and they need help with crisis support, accessing complex welfare benefits, or help with debt particularly with utilities.

We have shown resilience and the capacity to adjust to the effects of the economic down turns that shook the nation which is impacting on our clients.

During this reporting period we received funding from the NHS Northwest London CCG; Trust for London; The Henry Smith Foundation; Tudor Trust ; Harrow Council ; Lottery Community Grant and Young Harrow Foundation. Their generosity gave us access to

additional resources to deal with the increased demand and complexity of issues presented.

The resources from these organisations helped HASVO to undertake and continue providing our comprehensive services to new and old refugees and Migrants in Harrow and neighbouring Boroughs in west London.

Strengthening communities requires resources, and in particular a clear focus on putting in place individuals and teams whose primary job is to foster integration. Through designated funding, councils and major charitable groups like these can close the gap between the areas where strong social capital is already in place and those where it is not. This is likely to bring wider dividends as people within communities become more resilient, trusting, optimistic and open.

Small and medium organisations like HASVO play a vital role that others can't reach. The coronavirus pandemic has accelerated and emphasised challenges for public trust. But it is likely these feelings of detachment could be exacerbated as the economic impact takes hold. To rebuild trust, it is essential that communities are given a voice, using approaches that support community engagement, enabling empowerment and ownership.

Standard/Quality of services provided:

During this reporting year, we successfully renewed our Matrix Quality Mark and continued to increase the training and skills of our staff and volunteers to cope with the changes in the needs of our clients and to meet the demands for service level agreement standards and policies.

Our staff have finished courses on: Universal Credit Managed Migration; Personal Independent Payment, Universal Credit Calculations, Level 5 Diploma in Leadership and Management for Adult Care 603/3462/9; Preparing for an appeal Tribunal, Housing Law and advice, Homelessness and Allocation Law, Housing and Mental Health.

We continue to be an active partner in the local affairs with the police, Harrow Council, Voluntary sector and attend all sessions of the community leaders meetings organised by the Local authority to discuss and convey our service users concerns and needs around issues of community cohesion and crime prevention.

All current trustees receive regular annual in house and external courses on safeguarding and charity management roles. Courses on safe guarding are provided by the local voluntary action Harrow group which we are a member. The staff and volunteers attend courses on safeguarding organized and run by the Voluntary Action Harrow Group

They are all DBS checked and receive in house performance assessment and guidance of health and safety and other safe guarding policies.

5. Annual General Meeting:

This year we have our AGM in 7th October 2023 and elected five trustees. The trustees sat every eight weeks of their regular meetings to discuss issues and assess plans. The chair, Treasurer and secretary meet on every Wednesday.

Trustees and staff have organised four general community meetings and two focus group discussions on service user satisfaction during this reporting year.

The aims of these general meetings were; to give members of the community the opportunity to give feedback, give ideas and opinions about the running of the charity and to participate in the planning and strategies of the charity. The second session aimed to discuss crime, youth support and community outreach services for the elderly and those in need for support.

All our charitable activities are described in our objectives and focus on implementing supportive and enabling activities that help harrow communities to enjoy life in full and to reduce /bridge the gaps that are inherent in our societies as well as those originating from skills and knowledge gap between groups and communities.

Involving the local community:

HASVO is very much a user led organisation and involve clients in a number of ways:

- There are user representatives on the Board of Trustees, who have a say in the development of Services.
- Members of our staff share the same language and cultural backgrounds of our users, thus can relate to them effectively.
- We recruit Volunteers from our community each year to support the project. They are all fully trained and supervised.

-
- We have off-site and online consultations to gain their opinions on activities and feedback on our work.
 - Individual users are fully consulted regarding the tailored support each receives. they sign off all action plans.

Monitoring feedback results shows that 97% of clients attending our advice sessions were satisfied with the outcome, 86% of people attending our employment sessions considered they were better placed for employment, and 89% of attendees at our information sessions reported that the support and information provided enable them to "make a more informed decision". Feedback includes:

- *"HASVO has prevented me from a complete breakdown after my first born was refused access to the school, there comprehensive support and resilience for a positive outcome has resolved my issue and put my family back into shape."*
- *"My life has been in turmoil, I was always in debt, went without heating or income many times. HASVO...helped me sort out my debts and I am living happily and independently with my children for the last three years."*
- *"When my pension income was suspended, I lost my housing benefit. The HASVO support worker tirelessly helped me to recover my income and suspended the proceedings against eviction."*
- *"I got sick with a chronic infection, then I had a fall with multiple fractures. I was homeless and without benefits at some point. Luckily, the HASVO team helped me to get treatment, a flat and an income."*
- *I Have travelled from Felton after I received a section 21 notice from my landlord which has brought a whole new curtain of uncertainty and fear especially when you have 5 siblings that depend on you. A friend has advised me to visit HASVO. The advice worker gave me reassurance and professional guidance which has helped me to focus on the positive aspects and their advocacy and support has helped us get suitable accommodation again'*
- *Two elderly women that did not speak English nor able to read local in own local language that we helped enrol an ESOL programme for beginners with a nearby partner charity have said' the activity has improved their life and happiness in an unimaginable way'*

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

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Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

CHARITY INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Status: The organisation is charitable company limited by guarantee incorporated on 26 April 2005.

Governing Documents: The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established under the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. Under this article, the members of the board are elected at the AGM to serve of the period of two years.

Charity Number: 1129442

Company Number 5435204

Registered Office
Operational Office
66 Lower Road
Harrow Middlesex
HA2 0HD

Operational Office
66 Lower Road
Harrow Middlesex
HA2 0HD

Banker
Lloyds Bank
Wembley Branch
Middlesex

Banker
Bank of Ireland
7 St Johns Road
Harrow Middlesex

Independent Examiner
MAAT Abdirahman Amin
3 Bob Currie Close
Harrow
Middlesex HA2 9BF

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees of Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law. Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity and the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgement and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- Prepare the financial statements on going concern bases unless it's inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with companies ACT 2006. 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.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies' regime in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006, and in accordance with the governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 - effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Financial Review

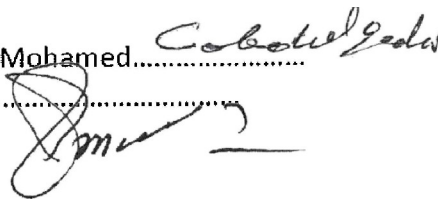
For the year ended 31 March 2023, HASVO LIMITED received total sum of £175,354 of which £131,516 was restricted funds and £39,300 unrestricted funds. Total expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2023 was £170,692 (£131,130 restricted funds and £39,562 was unrestricted funds).

Trustees

Director: Cabdulqaadir A Mohamed.....

Trustee: Ahmed Yusuf.....

Date 20/09/2023



Independent Examiners Appointed

MAAT. Abdirahman Amin was appointed as the charity independent examiner during the year and has expressed his willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 20 August 2023

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF YEAR ENDED

31 MARCH 2023

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 set out on pages five to nine.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year {under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required. It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- State whether matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records.

It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

{1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

(2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached. The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Abdirahman Amin..

Licensed Association of Accounting Technician

BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance

83 High Street, Harlesden

NWIO 4SJ

27/10/2023

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023.

Description		General Funds	Restricted Funds	2023/22 Total	2022/21 Total
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Grant and Donations	2	43,838	131,516	175,354	147,648
Other Incoming Recourses	3				
Total Incoming Recourses		<u>43,838</u>	<u>131,516</u>	<u>175,354</u>	<u>147,648</u>
Recourses Expended					
Support Cost	4	33,810	6,260.00	40,070	26,257
Estates facilities Cost	5	4,576	7,900	12,476	8,528
Charitable Expenditure	6	0.00	116,970	116,970	121,029
Accountants and Governance	8	1,176	0	1,176	511
Total Resources Expended		<u>(39,562)</u>	<u>(131,130)</u>	<u>(170,692)</u>	<u>(156,325)</u>
Incoming Outgoing Recourses Before Transfer		4,276	386	4,662	(8,677)
Funds Brought Forward on 31 March 2022		<u>16,565</u>	<u>85,993</u>	<u>102,558</u>	<u>111,273</u>
Total Funds C/F on 31 March 2023		<u>20,841</u>	<u>86,379</u>	<u>107,220</u>	<u>102,596</u>

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

Statement of Balance Sheet for the Year Ended 31 March 2023.

Description	Notes	General Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2023/22 Total	2022/21 Total
Fixed Assets		£	£		£	£
Equipment	13	6147	0		6,147	4,845
Other Fixed Assets		0	0		0	0
Total Fixed Assets		6147	0		6,147	4,845
Current Assets						
Debtors	9	0	0	0		0
Cash at bank and in hand	10	22,807	86,379	109,186		102,558
Total Current Assets		22,807	86,379	109,186		102,558
Creditors Amounts falling due within one year	11	(4,320)	(0)	(4,320)		(3,229}
Net Current Assets (Liability)		18,487			104,866	99,329
Total Assets less (Current Liability)		24,634	86,379		111,013	104,174
Creditors Amounts falling due after one year	12	(3,793)	(0}		(3,793)	(1,578}
Net Assets		<u>20,841</u>	<u>86,379</u>		<u>107,220</u>	<u>102,596</u>

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

AUDIT EXCEMPTTION STATEMENT

For the year ending 31 March 2023, the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for its accounts in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of records.

- a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.
- c) These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees.

20/08/2023

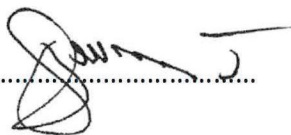
Trustees

Director: Cabdulqaadir A Mohamed.....



Trustee: Ahmed Yusuf.....

Date 20/09/2023



Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of Preparation of the Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008), the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in March 2005.

1.2 Incoming resources Donations, legacies and other forms of voluntary income are recognised as incoming resources when receivable, except insofar as they are incapable of financial measurement. All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to categories of income: Voluntary income and donations are included in incoming resources when they are receivable, except when the donors specify that they must be used in future accounting periods or certain conditions have not been fulfilled, then the income is deferred. Grants where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

1.3 Resources expended

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them. Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the Independent Examiner's fee and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource.

1.4 Grants

1.4.1.

Grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities on the earlier date of when they are received or when they are receivable unless it is specified that they are for a future accounting period, in which case they are included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be recognised in those future accounting periods.

1.4.2

Unrestricted funds are the funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

1.5 Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation, Tangible Fixed Assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of each asset over their expected useful life, as follows: Fixtures fittings and equipment: 20% Straight Line Basis

1.6 Financial review: Reserves Policy

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited holds funds from its reserves. The current financial risk is low however the trust has a policy to hold a reserve of £30,000 to cover six month's operating costs.

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

2	HARROW ASSOCIATION OF SOMALI VOLUNTRY ORGANISATION	
	Grant and donations received	
		£
	National Community Lottery	9,980.00
	GLA London	4,389.00
	Harrow Council	19,275.50
	CCG-NHS	45,750.00
	Young Harrow Foundation	3,660.00
	Henry Smith	26,600.00
	Imperial College	2,000.00
	Trust For London	33,700.00
	Tudor Trust	30,000.00
	Grants and Donations	175,354.50
3	Other Income	0
		0
4	Support Cost	
	Bank Service Charge	961.00
	Insurance	880.00
	IT Equipment	1,253.00
	Volunteer Expenses	8,860.00
	Publicity	6,600.00
	Administration Cost	7,490.00
	Depreciation Charge	1,966.00
	Research and Assessment	5,800.00
	Workshop and Training	6,260.00
		<u>40,070.00</u>
5	Estates facilities cost	£
	Rent Expenses	7,900.00
	Council Tax Harrow Council	954.00
	Office Cleaning	1,243.00

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited. 783.00

Telephone Bill

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

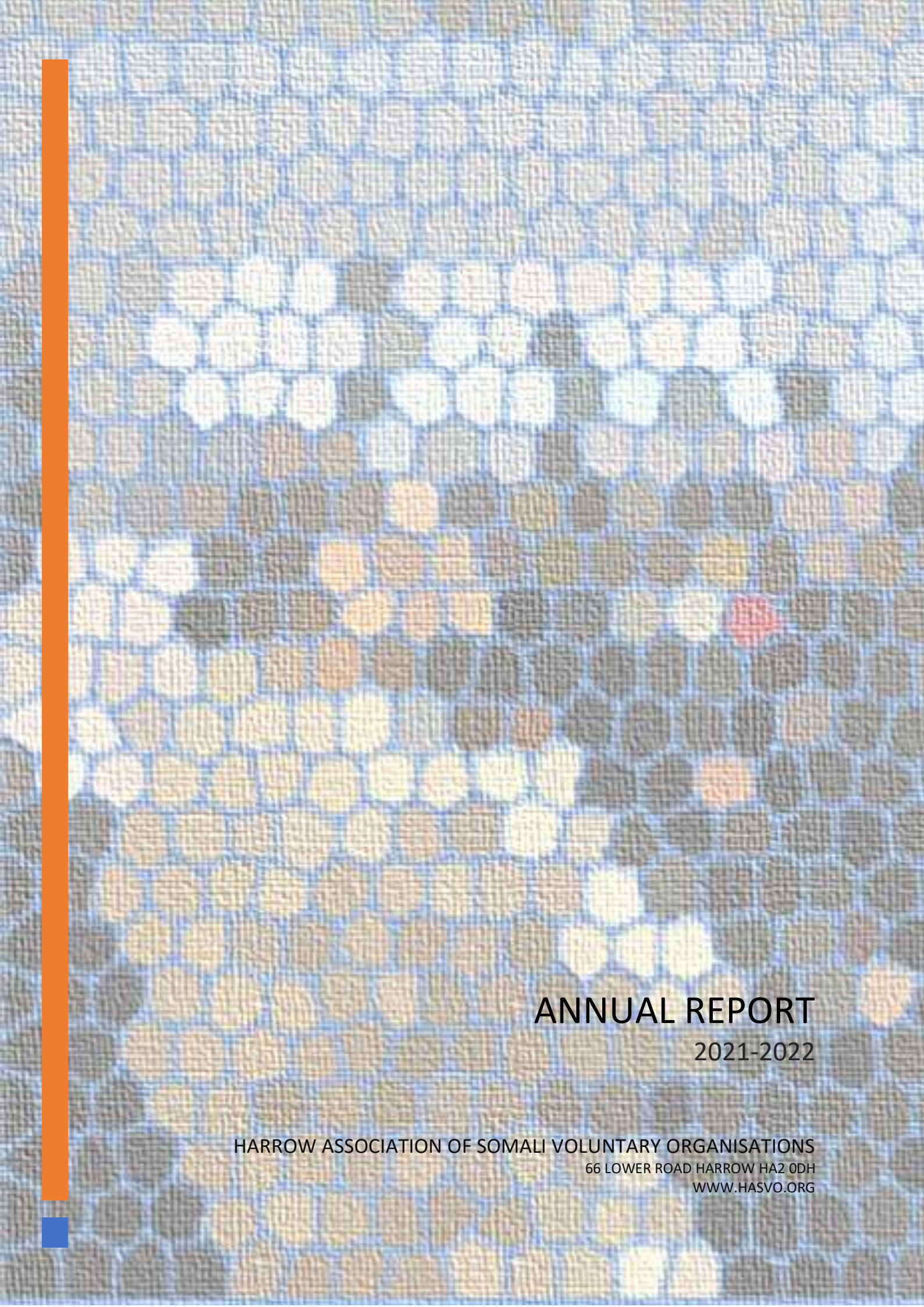
	Service Charge -utilities	<u>1,596.25</u>
		<u>12,476.25</u>
6	Charitable Services Cost	
	Charity Workers Expenditure	82,398.92
	Sessional Charity Workers Expenditure	19,705.00
	Other Charitable Expenditure	<u>14,867.00</u>
		<u>116,970.92</u>
7	Accountancy and Governance	£
	Annual Account Preparation	520.00
	Governance	256.00
	Annual report preparation	400.00
		1,176.00
		£
8	Debtors	<u>0</u>
		<u>0</u>
9	Cash	£
	Opening Balance	102,596.00
	Incoming Cash	175,355.00
		277,951.00
	Cash Expended	168,726.00
	Closing Balance	109,225.00
10	Creditors Amounts Falling due	£
	within one year	4,320.00
		4,320.00
11	Creditors Amounts falling	£
	Due after one year	3,793.00
		<u>3,793.00</u>

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated at 20% straight line method.

12	Tangible Fixed Assets	
	Cost	£
	Cost as at 1 April 2022	8,575
	Additions	1,253
	Revaluation	
	Cost as at 31 March 2023	<u>9,828</u>
	Depreciation	
	Depreciation as at 31 March 2022	1,715
	Charges for the period	1,966
	On Disposal	<u>0</u>
	Total depreciation at 31 March 2023	<u>3,681</u>
	Net Book Value at 31 March 2023	<u>6,147</u>
	Net Book Value at 31 March 2022	<u>7,251</u>

Accounts



ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022

HARROW ASSOCIATION OF SOMALI VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

66 LOWER ROAD HARROW HA2 0DH
WWW.HASVO.ORG

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ABSTRACT

The Covid-19 and the new cost of living & financial situations has added to the pre-existing problems of relative poverty and impoverishment in the city of London.

London is known for its high housing cost rates. According to Trust for London Charity who does a lot of research and investment on the city living costs and poverty '27% of Londoners are living in poverty after housing costs, rising to 39% of those living in non-white households and more than half -53% of single parents are living in poverty when housing costs is taken into account'.

London is also home for the richest and highest income groups in the country and has the highest inequality gap of the lower and the higher income groups. It also has the second worst levels of impoverishment for children after the North East. Average housing costs are estimated in London at £1924 a month with larger families needing more than this average.

Although Harrow is described as affluent it has nevertheless pockets of deprivation mainly in wards of South Harrow, Wealdstone and Edge ware where the majority of our service users come.

The Organisation has continued to fulfil its duties as a first line or frontline voluntary organisation in the Borough of Harrow and Neighbouring Boroughs. There was a general increase in the total number of registered members (total registered figure is now 1593 members)

The trustees are satisfied that project outcomes and organisational objectives have been successfully carried out during this period and that sound financial and organisational key policies have been observed.

There have been no major or small incidents relating to health and safety and other matters of concern or complaints recorded.

The AGM was conducted on the 3rd of November 2022 with officers elected for a further two years. (see attached introduction report of the chair).

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations (HASVO) is a registered charity which supports Somali and Arabic Refugees in Harrow. Founded in 2004, we now have a membership of 1593 individuals and 8 groups.

HASVO's aims are to increase cohesion and volunteering, promote healthy living and prevent substance misuse, improve disadvantaged people's quality of life through advocacy, increase youth achievement, and support in training and employment.

We provide the following activities:

- Advice & Advocacy service. This includes crisis assistance, accessing welfare benefits, and help into employment.
- Support for older people. We provide outreach support, social groups, and luncheon club.
- Information sessions. We run a wide variety of different seminars on parenting, caring issues and others.
- Reduction of isolation: We support local groups such as a Women's Group and Young Deaf Refugees Group.
- Youth services: We provide a supplementary school, a mentoring project, and run events against extremism and crime.
- Prevention and awareness of ill health and promotion of healthy habits
- Help on employment and support to access skills development programmes with other mainstream bodies; organize sessions at our drop in centre to build confidence and working experience; Orientation and Integration programmes for new comers particularly Arabic and main land European migrants.

HASVO unequivocally lives by principles of equity and justice at the heart of its approach. One of our charitable objects is the promotion of equality of diversity and we achieve this through providing a variety of support, including one-to-one advice and advocacy on issues such as rights and entitlements.

We support socially excluded Somali and Arabic refugees and migrants. They face a number of issues including insecure status, unemployment which is caused by a complex new system, sometimes discrimination, lack of local knowledge and skills. Covid-19 had a terrible impact upon our clients particularly as many lived with elderly relatives in overcrowded accommodation, and this has been exacerbated by cost of living rises.

Our work aims to help improve people's lives as well as integrate them into the wider community. We are user led, with a board, staff team, and volunteers who all come from the community we support. We also run numerous consultation events and feedback sessions, which means that our services meet the needs of beneficiaries, and improves their lives in a positive way.

The people we support face a number of issues including poverty; 43% of clients in 2021/22 were unemployed, and those who were in employment had an average income of £612 per month. Overcrowded poor quality housing is a major issue, and this has had impacts such as a high death rate due to Covid19. Overcrowding and poor tenancy security has a serious setback to the live and development of the children and their school achievement.

The cost of living crisis has further exacerbated the situation like the rest of the UK with more people telling us that they are finding it hard to pay the bills, and they need help with crisis support, accessing complex welfare benefits, or help with debt particularly with utilities.

We have shown resilience and the capacity to adjust to the effects of the economic down turns that shook the nation which is impacting on our clients.

Fortunately, there have been significant improvements to our income and fund raising during the last two years. We received funding from the NHS Northwest London CCG; Trust for London; The Henry Smith Foundation; Tudor Trust and Harrow Council. Their generosity gave us access to additional resources to deal with the increased demand and complexity of issues presented.

The resources from these organisations helped HASVO to undertake and continue providing our comprehensive services to new and old refugees and Migrants in Harrow and neighbouring Boroughs in west London.

Strengthening communities requires resources, and in particular a clear focus on putting in place individuals and teams whose primary job is to foster integration. Through designated funding, councils and major charitable groups like these can close the gap between the areas where strong social capital is already in place and those where it is not. This is likely to bring wider dividends as people within communities become more resilient, trusting, optimistic and open.

Small and medium organisations like HASVO play an imaginable role that others can't reach. The coronavirus pandemic has accelerated and emphasised challenges for public trust. But it is likely these feelings of detachment could be exacerbated as the economic impact takes hold. To rebuild trust, it is essential that communities are given a voice, using approaches that support community engagement, enabling empowerment and ownership.

Further resources are expected to come from the Refugee Action –Migrant Justice fund and the John Lyon charities for our youth work and immigration outreach support.

During this reporting period, we successfully renewed our Matrix Quality Mark and continued to increase the training and skills of our staff and volunteers to cope with the changes in the needs of our clients and meet the demands for service level agreement standards and policies. We are working in partnership with a large number of agencies in Harrow and Northwest London. We work hard to form referral pathways and joint work with numerous groups, and as such we are seen as a key delivery organisation by many of our local partners. These partners include statutory agencies such as Harrow Council, Harrow CCG, Harrow Police; Voluntary sector groups such as Afghan Association Paiwand, Harrow Carers, the Citizens Advice Bureau, Mencap, Young Harrow Foundation, EACH Counselling, Harrow Law Centre, IGNITE, Harrow Success solutions, Harrow Central Mosque and Carama, Harrow Mind, Harrow Together and Harrow Voluntary Action also work closely with us.

Our partnership with these agencies has been positive and contributes positively to the wellbeing and development of the community. They recognise the critical role we play in providing access to justice for people facing the greatest impacts from austerity and Covid-19.

Next year, HASVO will aim to become FCA registered to provide debt advice and registered with the OISC to become a regulated immigration advice centre, two areas with high demands from our clients.

1. OVERALL NUMBER OF CLIENTS SUPPORTED BY PROJECTS DURING THE YEAR:

ACTIVITIES	NUMBER OF CLIENTS SUPPORTED	COMMENTS
ADVICE INCLUDING OUTREACH	1648	These are mainly supported through our drop-in sessions on Benefits; filling forms; sign posting; one to one advice; employment and debt relief.
INFORMATION ON HEALTHY LIVING/PARENTING FRIDAYS. SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS FOR SOCIAL NETWORKING AND PREVENTION OF ISOLATION & LONELINESS	572	38 sessions were delivered
HOUSING SUPPORT AND PREVENTION OF HOMELESSNESS	306	Weekly average attendance per session is approximately 30, 10 and 14 persons over 52 weeks
YOUTH ACTIVITIES	361	
	235	Weekly school term tuition support, the provision of extracurricular activities; visits to important local sites and holiday excursions. These are for children aged 5-18 year olds.
TOTAL	3122	



2. IMPROVING LIVES AND PREVENTION OF CRISIS AT THE FAMILY, INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY LEVELS

We work in a holistic way and support people through different interventions. We resolve issues from school, benefit, employment, health and create positive environment for community progress through our advice, advocacy and outreach support. Community empowerment and development is attempted through our biweekly, weekly, monthly and annual big events as well as our informal comprehensive assessment of the individual and house hold needs during the drop-in sessions.

This year we have opened three out lets to ease the loneliness and improve mental wellbeing of our women. The Harrow central Mosque has provided with a space for thirty women for four hours every Saturday and two small groups use the HASVO centre for Sunday and Fridays.

We believe these interactions are a positive contribution for peer learning and prevents isolation thus improving mental wellbeing.

During this year the number of Arabic speakers and mainland Europeans have reached to 20% of the total beneficiaries. As a result of the increased issues of immigration brought on by this new influx.

Our projects have saved both money and time and contributed to the mental wellbeing of families and individuals who without this level of service be in further difficulties and debt.

Moreover, Mental health is a serious issue in this community partly because of the traumatic historic experiences and the relative poverty and difficulties faced here. We try to contribute to their positive thinking and elimination of burning issues. Our activities are often praised for the soothing and relief of stress from issues of debt, schooling; housing and benefits. Our solutions though at primary level, have their advantages over the complexity of formalities, cultural and language barriers and waiting times that people go through in mainstream agencies.



3. PROMOTION OF HEALTHY LIVING & REDUCTION OF HEALTH GAPS AMONG THE BAME COMMUNITY.



There are more than 10,000 Somalis and seven thousand Arabic speakers in the borough who came here as a result of civil wars and have been through a traumatic exile process. Moreover, two thirds of the adults have very low literacy levels and experience cultural and linguistic barriers to access health services. Such factors and others associated with their health literacy, living standards and endemic health conditions are an indication of the gaps of health needs between this new community and the mainstream host population.

Our Health and wellbeing is influenced by factors beyond the reach of the health and social care institutions such as hospitals, GPs and district Nurses. The gaps in health indicators of today are linked to our levels of deprivation and poverty, incomes; access to information and health literacy at community, household and individual levels as well as the existence of dietary and cultural harmful taboos.

Although Harrow is inhabited by one of the most affluent and highest income groups in London, there are however pockets of deprivations with high concentrations in the mainly southern wards of Roxeth, Wealdstone and central wards. These marked gaps in incomes and affluence are apparent from the health indicator charts.

The NHS and Harrow CCG have put forward plans to address this disparity through culturally appropriate services and to work in partnership with voluntary sector groups such as HASVO. The prevalence of hypertension, stroke, coronary heart disease, diabetes and mental illnesses are greater among the BME and new arrivals from the Middle East and Africa and form the biggest part of the health gaps between the population groups in Harrow.

The holistic nature of the determinants of health and ill health require that we address the underlying factors that impact on our health from an individual, household and community levels.

The project's information and networking with the mainstream teams such as GPs, hospitals, mental health & housing will contribute towards a more equitable health care by improving the access to information and coverage of preventive medicine & care for the BME community in Harrow. HASVO remains one of the key partners of the CCG and granted a bid funding to provide the new community (mainly made up of refugees) services to reduce ill health, improve social isolation, prevent unnecessary A&E overuse; raise health illiteracy and improve service uptake.

4. DROP IN SESSIONS AND OUTREACH WORK (ADVICE, ADVOCACY & INFORMATION)

Clients receive an unhindered advice and sign posting sessions for five days a week (Monday to Fridays between 10:00 to 16:00).

The following is a summary of the outcomes of this service:

- Clients are supported on housing issues; benefits; appointments, interpretation, filling forms for GP and letter reading; explain medicines and treatment regimens including attendance of postoperative rehabilitation programmes.
- Clients are directed, advised and sign posted to health and social clubs, appropriate gym and exercise venues, drug compliance and to other service providers.
- Supporting and ensuring that elderly people with difficulties receive the optimal care and services without hindrance by providing them with qualified interpreters, outreach services and linking them with next of kin or social friends for a sustained network.
- Engagement with public health team. Networking with the Harrow Council, the public health team and other local agencies to help them conduct focus groups and special information sessions.
- Sharing information and service networks, supporting access to services maximizing choice and control and making sure services and activities can be accessed by all.
- Helping people with poor and overcrowded accommodations and prevention of homelessness.



5. PREVENTION OF ISOLATION AND LONELINESS AND CREATION OF A WARM HUB

Many refugees have difficulty to express themselves and seek advice without the help of others. This group are often old pensioners and live in residential compounds or self-contained rooms. HASVO organises support through the project's volunteers to help them on independent living and to access medical and social care.

- We have started an elderly weekend hub for Somali and Arabic speaker's ladies. Over 54 participants benefit from three different days in two outlets. These are on Fridays between 17:00-19:00; Saturday at Harrow Central Mosque between 16:00-20:00 and Sundays between 14:00 -18:00. These are an informal gatherings aimed to improve social networking for Women and the lone elderly to access and interact with others in order to increase wellbeing and mental health.
- It also gives them a warm hub for people with low incomes. Again, volunteers introduce public health messages on cancer screening, diabetes management and vaccinations.
- We continually follow and monitor their situation particularly on housing maintenance, fixtures of enabling tools, prescriptions, appointment with GPs', hospital discharges and specialist procedures and other benefits.



6. FINANCIAL REPORT:

There was an improved capacity of the charity to undertake more activities from last year. Thanks to Trust for London; The Tudor Trust; The Henry Smith Foundation Charity; The Northwest London CCG for their continued support to improve the lives of the Londoners and new migrants.

We are expecting two more project funds to be available during the next few months from the John Lyon which replaces the London Mayoral Youth support and Refugee Action which will enable us to organise more youth and Immigration outreach specialist services.

The Annual Account:

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required. It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- State whether matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records.

It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- (2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached. The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Abdirahman Amin.....

Licensed Association of Accounting Technician

BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance

17/10/2022

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022.

Description	General Funds	Restricted Funds	2021/22 Total	2020/2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Grant and Donations	12,043	135,605	147,648	237,235
Other Incoming Recourses	-	-	-	-
Total Incoming Recourses	<u>12,043</u>	<u>135,605</u>	<u>147,648</u>	<u>237,235</u>
Recourses Expended				
Office Administration and equipment	11,191	15,066	26,257	39,580
Estates facilities Cost	-	8,528	8,528	8,179
Charitable Activities	-	121,029	121,029	130,329
Accountants and Governance	511.0	-	511.0	1101
Total Resources Expended	<u>11,702</u>	<u>144,623</u>	<u>156,325</u>	<u>179,189</u>
Incoming Outgoing Recourses Before Transfer	341	(9,018)	(8,677)	58,046
Funds Brought Forward on 31 March 2021	16,224	95,011	111,273	53,227
Total Funds C/F on 31 March 2022	<u><u>16,565</u></u>	<u><u>85,993</u></u>	<u><u>102,596</u></u>	<u><u>111,273</u></u>

Statement of Balance Sheet for the Year Ended 31 March 2022.

Description	General Funds	Restricted Funds	2021/22 Total	2020/21 Total
Fixed Assets	£	£	£	£
Equipment	-	4845	4,845.0	7,251
Other Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-
Total Fixed Assets	-	4845	4,845.0	7,251
Current Assets				
Debtors	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	15,565	86,993	102,558	111,273
Total Current Assets	<u>15,565</u>	<u>86,993</u>	<u>102,558</u>	<u>111,273</u>
Creditors Amounts Falling due within one year	(282)	(2,947)	(3,229)	(5,541)
Net Current Assets (Liability)	<u>15,283</u>	<u>84,046</u>	<u>99,329</u>	<u>105,732</u>
Total Assets less (Current Liability)	<u>15,283</u>	<u>88,891</u>	<u>104,174</u>	<u>112,983</u>
Creditors Amounts falling due after one year	(103)	(1475)	(1578)	(1,710)
Net Assets	<u><u>15,180</u></u>	<u><u>87,416</u></u>	<u><u>102,596</u></u>	<u><u>111,273</u></u>

Funds Available for the next six Months

Funds Available for next year	2021/22	2020/21
Employee Liability. Contingency	15,200	15,200
Rent and Council Tax	14,723	14,723
Project Manager Salary	10,020	10,020
General Funds	15,180	16,263
Other Ongoing Projects	47,473	55,067
Total Funds	<u><u>102,596</u></u>	<u><u>111,273</u></u>

AUDIT EXCEMPTTION STATEMENT

For the year ending 31 March 2022, the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for its accounts in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of records.

- a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.
- c) These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees.

20/09/2022

Trustees

Director: Cabdulqaadir A Mohamed.....

Trustee: Ahmed Yusuf.....

Date 20/09/2022

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of Preparation of the Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008), the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in March 2005.

1.2 Incoming resources Donations, legacies and other forms of voluntary income are recognised as incoming resources when receivable, except insofar as they are incapable of financial measurement. All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to categories of income: Voluntary income and donations are included in incoming resources when they are receivable, except when the donors specify that they must be used in future accounting periods or certain conditions have not been fulfilled, then the income is deferred. Grants where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

1.3 Resources expended

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them. Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the Independent Examiner's fee and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity. All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource.

1.4 Grants

Grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities on the earlier date of when they are received or when they are receivable unless it is specified that they are for a future accounting period, in which case they are included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be recognised in those future accounting periods.

1.4.2 Unrestricted funds are the funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

1.5 Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation, Tangible Fixed Assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of each asset over their expected useful life, as follows: Fixtures fittings and equipment: 20% Straight Line Basis

1.6 Financial review: Reserves Policy : Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited holds funds from its reserves. The current financial risk is low

however the trust has a policy to hold a reserve of £30,000 to cover six month's operating costs.

2. Tangible Fixed assets

Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost	£
Cost as at 1 April 2016	3,457
Additions	8,575.0
Revaluation	-
Disposal	-3457
Cost as at 31 March 2021	<u>8,575</u>
Depreciation	
Depreciation as at 1 April 2021	4,781
Charges for the period	2406
On Disposal	-3457
Total depreciation at 31 March 2022	<u>3,730</u>
Net Book Value at 31 March 2022	<u>4,845</u>
Net Book Value at 31 March 2021	<u>7,251</u>

7. APPENDIX:

INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW MANAGEMENT FOR THE HARROW ASSOCIATION OF SOMALI VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS (HASVO)

It's my pleasure to introduce to you here the new members of Management Committee for the Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations.

The new team was elected during our AGM held at the HASVO centre on the 3rd of November 2022.

This committee will remain in office for a term of two years
Hasvo will continue to forge partnership with the voluntary and statutory organisations in order to achieve durable solutions for the multidimensional problems of this new community.

The list of the newly elected Management committee members are:

Name	Position
Abdulqadir Mohamed Afey	Chair
Ayaan Ismail	Secretary
Ahmed Yussuf	Treasurer
Omar Noor	Member
Samira Hassan	Member

HASVO's main aims are summarised as follows:

- Provide a voice for Somali Community in the London Borough of Harrow in discussions and negotiations with statutory and voluntary agencies as well as other relevant bodies.
- Encourage, train, build and strengthen the capacity of its member organisations and volunteers so that their services become more appropriate to the needs of the Somali community.
- Provide a network for the dissemination of information, good practice and the sharing of skills in order to develop services for the community.
- Actively promote the valuable contributions, which the Somali community members make to the wider community as a whole.
- Enter into partnerships with appropriate agencies to further the aims of its members and produce tangible benefits for the Somali Community in Harrow.
- Provide a channel for raising issues of concern to the Somali Community and campaign for the rights of the Community.
- Initiate and publish research on the needs of the Somali Community members in Harrow and identify ways of meeting those needs.

- Provide education, training and raising awareness on the practical issues affecting the Somali Community in the Borough.

Our Core Values are:

- **Social Justice:** enabling the Somali Community members to claim their human rights, meet their needs and have greater control over the decision-making processes which affect their lives.
- **Participation:** facilitating democratic involvement of the Somali Community in the issues which affect their lives based on full citizenship, autonomy, and shared power, skills, knowledge and experience etc.
- **Equality:** challenging the attitude of individuals and the practices of institutions and society which discriminate against our marginalized & deprived community in Harrow and beyond.
- **Learning:** recognising the skills, knowledge and expertise that the Somali Community members can contribute in Harrow and develop ways of taking action to tackle social, economic and political exclusion. **Co-operation:** promoting joint-working with statutory agencies to identify and implement action to meet the needs of the Somali Community in the Borough.

AGM Public Questions and Feedback from Attendees:

During the Meeting, the Chair of the trustees gave a summary of the annual report and the Treasurers account was approved.

The Treasurer shared the participants on the progress of financial situation of the organization. He thanked the new funding organizations for their ongoing support (Henry Smith Foundation, Trust for London; Tudor Trust; the John Leyon/Mayor Office and the North west London NHS CCG and Harrow Council.

Both leaders stated that there have been remarkable improvements made in the areas of healthy living, employment and access to basic rights for the new arrivals who are mainly Arabic speakers and the old migrants.

The Coordinator have highlighted the important role this organization fulfills for the borough wide service delivery, community cohesion, and bridging of gaps in equality and integration of new groups.

The youth coordinator shared slides of the hidden issues that the community needs to combat together and air their voices as a community for the common issues that affect us all.

The leaders have noted the increasing number of non-Somali beneficiaries especially from the Mediterranean and the east European countries and EU citizens. Some of these groups are presenting circumstances/situations that Somali community have dealt ten to fifteen years ago. This certainly presents the demand for more resources and resilience from the volunteers and organisation to adjust to meeting such needs as a public body.

Public feedback:

- The overall support provided by HASVO to the wider community was recognised by members has it continues to reach other communities such as the Arabic speakers
- Another client stated that although Somalis are not used to praise each other, its nevertheless time to say the reality about the outcomes and benefits of your contributions for the community.
- We have are grateful to have this organisation, volunteers and staff in Harrow.
- Ms K said that on a desperate time she came with thousands of pound in debt and suspension of her housing benefits. She was happy that thought the support of HASVO she gained moral support as well as support to resolve her issues.
- Mr R. A pensioner with early signs of forgetfulness and fear from council officers. Shared how HASVO case worker has sorted out many of his issues after a long struggle.
- Ms M. A., has nine children and faced frequent problems from school exclusions and suspensions, she shared how HASVO youth worker had tirelessly worked with her and the school(s) to find workable solutions. She says despite having four children with difficulties in school(s) HASVO has been by my side all through. I can't thank them enough.

Accounts



ANNUAL REPORT

2020-2021



**Harrow Association of
Somali Voluntary Organisations**

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1. Introduction:

HASVO supports Somali and Arabic refugees in North West London with a focus in Harrow. Our main aim is to increase cohesion and volunteering, promote healthy living and prevent substance misuse, improve disadvantaged people's quality of life, increase youth achievement, and support training and employment. We currently have a membership of 1493 individuals and is growing.

In Harrow and elsewhere in the United Kingdom people from ethnic minority groups have seen an increased burden of not only the morbidity and mortality of the pandemic but also faced additional layer of socio-economic and psychological setbacks posed by the lockdown and loss of incomes.

The diverse population of the UK is represented by various ethnic groups, each with their own distinct cultural identities and health beliefs. We have seen how poor understanding of population diversity, lack of language and cultural competence, together with institutional racism, can create barriers for people's access to primary and mainstream services.

The new communities specially the Somalis and Arabic speakers have an extra layer of difficulties arising from the lower literacy, cultural and other socio-economic factors which impacts on their life and wellbeing something which have been highlighted by the disparity of outcomes from the recent pandemic's mortality and morbidity rates.

Many people in Harrow live under complex and difficult life circumstances which impact on their daily living and long-term progress. Voluntary organisations such as HASVO work to a 'social model' by taking a holistic approach to the person's needs within their wider life context.

The nature of support and services by small and medium organisations like HASVO is like building the blocks for sustainable community development while ensuring the rights of access and care by all people without hindrance due to their race or language or other barriers.

Advocacy and advice by trusted and culturally appropriate centres are essential primary support networks for refugees and new migrants and their children. They help them before things get worse or out of hand specially on debt, incomes and signposting to higher levels of attention. Our interventions have a positive impact on the family and their children's achievement; their health and well-being; reducing stress and anxiety; preventing relationship breakdown; promoting employment and increasing incomes and empowering them to make wider positive changes to their life.

Stakeholders felt that the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on BAME groups presented an opportunity to create fast but sustainable change and mitigate further impact. Change needs to be large scale and transformative. Action is needed to change the structural and societal environments such as the homes, neighbourhoods, workplaces - not solely focusing on individuals. There is a legal duty and moral responsibility to reduce inequalities.

All studies during the last two years demonstrate the need for investment in local bodies such as HASVO, they also acknowledge the valuable contributions made by these groups to facilitate cohesion and development and therefore reduce impoverishment and gaps in living standards.

Although, last year was a bit stable than the high peak seasons of the late 2019th and early 2020th, we have continued to deal with increased burdens from the pandemic particularly issues relating to loss of incomes, debt and uptake of vaccinations and youth support.

Our efforts have been supported by additional funds received from Harrow Council, Tudor Trust in addition to our ongoing projects from the Henry Smith charity, Trust for London and Northwest London CCG. Small short-term funds were received also from Harrow Giving and Refugee action team.

All these resources have helped HASVO to respond to the challenges faced by the community and enabled us to recruit sessional staff as additional support workers to effectively deal with the increased demand through outreach and drop-in services and engage groups proactively particularly young parents, youth and vulnerable clients.

In addition to the issues arising from the pandemic other needs and challenges continued to be dealt from different levels. Staff and volunteers have effectively doubled their working hours to meet and cope with the different challenges among the community.

We continue to actively support volunteers to campaign for changes amongst delivery agencies and authorities, to improve their competence and provide culturally appropriate service.

The HASVO centre has provided advice and advocacy services for over 17 years in north west London. Staff and volunteers have worked hard to develop partnerships with different local voluntary and council organisations in order to deal with the difficulties faced by the refugees and migrants. longevity and the reliable open doors to all people have made the centre a familiar feature even beyond Harrow, Brent & Ealing Boroughs.

It's important to note here the extra ordinary burdens associated with small communities who already existed in the peripheral margins of the society with little or no cushion to lean on during crisis.

It is clearly apparent that the complexity of problems experienced by the Somali community and new arrivals from the Arab World is a direct result of insufficient and inadequate provision in the past to deal with problems at an early stage. It is hoped that over time those clients will present at an earlier stage with problems, and also become empowered to deal with issues themselves.

As in previous years, HASVO has been fortunate to receive moral, technical and material support from the local council team, Harrow and Northwest London CCG and London network funders to optimize its services in order to meet the growing needs of the group at a time of special difficulty.

Special thanks to Tudor Trust for funding staff and volunteer's wellbeing activities which has been a welcome investment at a time of great need. Our staff and volunteers faced issues beyond their experience and imagination. Some of the most acute issues faced included dealing with tasks of bereavement support and homelessness or loss of incomes for families. This was particularly difficult for the young workers and volunteers. Through the small fund from the Tudor Trust, we organised multiple social activities re energised them and improved their focus.

HASVO is grateful as always for the Trusts, Foundations and NW London CCG Harrow commissioning group whose resources have ensured the positive outcomes for the many vulnerable individuals and people with acute needs.

Although Harrow is described as an affluent and well-off Borough, there are, however, pockets and wards with deteriorating impoverishment and deprivation. Many of our clients are housed in temporary accommodations of poor quality and severely below the standards. The often large family sizes of the BME families adds to the difficulty of finding appropriate housing. There are very few four- or five-bedroom sizes houses built today in Harrow. The frequent changes and movement between temporary accommodations has been cited by the community as a serious issue of concern for their mental stability, employment and youth achievement. We are aware that families and individual tenants from this community change/move between four to five temporary homes before they are placed in semi-permanent accommodations.

2. Partnership

There was an overall improvement observed in the working partnerships amongst the local voluntary groups, Harrow Council and funding community.

This improved partnership has enabled us to deal effectively with the COVID-19 pandemic. A notable example of support is the concerted effort and time The Harrow Council Divisional Director of strategic commissioning of Public Sector; The Public Health Director; Harrow CCG; The leader of the Council and their team gave to HASVO leadership to ensure that our community and team have the capacity to deal with the pandemic.

We continue to work closely with the Harrow Voluntary sector and have organised shared events with Harrow Carers and Harrow Community Connex formerly Harrow Mencap.

HASVO Trustees feel that we have received an unparalleled support from different levels to improve the life of the community and bridge the service provision gaps.

We believe the organisation has learned from the challenges of the COVID-19 and increased our resolve and resilience to deal with the increased demand and the impact of the new situation.

3. Standard/Quality of Services:

We have successfully extended our routine annual online assessment questionnaire to continue the Matrix Standard Quality Mark.

We continued to increase the training and skills of our staff and volunteers to cope with the changes in the needs of our clients and to meet the demands for service level agreement standards and policies particularly with those arising as a result of the Covid-19.

We have been an active partner in the local affairs with the police, Council, voluntary sector and attended all sessions of the community leader's meetings organised by the council to discuss issues of extremism; community cohesion and crime prevention, Covid -19 and public health meetings.

All trustees receive regular annual in-house and external courses on safeguarding and charity management courses.

Courses on safeguarding are provided by the local voluntary action Harrow which we are a member. The staff and volunteers attend courses on safeguarding organised and run by the voluntary action Harrow.

4. Annual General Meeting:

We held our AGM again on the 13th August 2021 and have re-elected six trustees. The management which includes the chair, treasurer and secretary continue their meetings on every other Month (six weekly) in addition to the quarterly sessions by all the trustees.

Trustees and staff have organised events for social gatherings during this year in late July and August in order to improve wellbeing and help break the cycle of isolation and loneliness during the lockdown.

We have since strengthened our special events for parents and young people and increased our supplementary and school achievement activities by opening an extra support session on Saturdays. These youth support sessions are now conducted face to face since Mid-November 2021.

All of our charitable activities are described in our objectives and focus on implementing supportive and enabling activities that help harrow communities to enjoy life in full and to reduce /bridge the gaps that are inherent in our societies as well as those originating from skills and knowledge gap between groups and communities.

Our centre is accessible through public transport and is located at the heart of the Borough, something that helped the easy access of all ages and groups with varying difficulties among

the community. The centre serves as the meeting point of the elders both female and male elderly residents to get together on Fridays and occasional evening sessions during the summer and enjoy a hot soup, tea and refreshments (these sessions have not been carried out this year due to the covid-19 concerns and lockdowns imposed by the situation).

Attendees also receive information on relevant issues i.e., prevention of falls, prevention of fraud and tips for healthy eating. Those who have acute issues/problems make arrangements for outreach follow up.

HASVO is grateful to all the people who contributed to the success stories of this organisation and the positive impacts their contributions have brought upon the lives of the beneficiaries we served whom without their timely & generous contribution and advice we would not have maintained this crucial service to the needy and hard to reach group.

As one of the key BME organisations in the Borough, the new refugees from the Arab World have turned to us for help. We have recruited volunteers and Arabic support workers for them which began with a Thursday Arab speaker only sessions until we were able to offer them unhindered services throughout the weekdays.

As newcomers, their issues remain complex and require linguistic and cultural specialities. Female members of this community are less likely to be forthcoming and seek help or access outside support without their male partners or family members due to conservative traditional and religious concerns. However, we have observed an improved number during the past 12 months. Some of the women attending the drop-in sessions or information raising sessions pointed out they were encouraged by their Somali women counterparts who are often overrepresented in our beneficiaries.

5. HASVO's Aims & outcomes during the year 2020-21

The Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations (HASVO) is a registered charity which supports Somali and Arabic Refugees in Harrow. Founded in 2004, we now have a membership of 1493 individuals. The organisation's fundamental mission is to reduce the inherent service uptake gaps and inequality associated with their cultural, historic and language barriers and create an acceptable standard of living and happiness among the communities.

HASVO's aims are:

- to increase cohesion and improve equity of access to resources and services by marginal groups; increase volunteering from the BME
- promote healthy living ; prevent substance misuse;
- improve disadvantaged people's quality of life through advocacy and advice
- increase youth achievement and support training and employment.
- Support on housing and debt issues and liase with mainstream bodies
- Improve opportunities and infrastructural resources for prevention of crisis and later complications for the BAME community by giving them a primary care access and network of support.

To achieve the above aims, we offer the following activities:

1. Drop in sessions - In our drop in sessions we offer free advice over benefits & access to rights, sign posting and networking with main service providers i.e. the local council , support on health issues including assisting those with disabilities or mental health to access services & benefits ; improve access to employment and volunteering, parenting, debt and integration for five days a week between 10:00 to 17:00 from Monday to Friday.
2. Reduction of isolation and improving social networks - Many adults and people with disability are often house bound for long periods. We have offered a venue and organise events to help them find company and share experiences.
3. Information sessions - We run a wide variety of different information sessions on health issues, substance missuse, access to housing & prevention of homelessness; parenting, home care and support of the elderly. These sessions help clients to improve their health, inform them of where they can get support, enhance their parenting skills and empower them to make appropriate decisions about life and healthy living.

4. Education services for young people - Our work on the youth achievement/support includes increasing the community capacity and own resources to support their children in school, provide tuition and home work support through our supplementary school, and raising awareness against extremism, gangs and tackling youth hopelessness. We also continue to provide young people and families summer outdoor activities. These summer activities are funded by John Lyon .
5. Outreach elderly and disable people's support and organise special events for older people.
6. Advocacy and Networking - HASVO is an active member of the Harrow Voluntary Sector Forum and Harrow advice and Advocacy network as well as the Mental Health Forum; Harrow Young Foundation and HCA. It's through these forums and the partnership with the local Council that we offer an informed and accurate status of the community and raise their issues which are then taken to become part of the local agenda and fed into the national policies.

6. Summary of Major outputs during 2021:

We support socially excluded Somali and Arabic refugees and immigrants living in poor wards of Harrow. They face a number of issues including poverty and unemployment or low income. Other issues facing them include lack of English language skills, and a culture that leads to women in particular having a restricted role in wider society. These issues have become worse due to impact of Covid-19 which has had a terrible impact upon our clients. This has included a significant number of deaths, loss of employment (which often tended to be informal or insecure) and increased domestic violence as families have been forced to shield together.

Latest ethnicity statistics (2019) from ONS as compiled by Harrow Council shows that the Somali and Arabic community within the London borough of Harrow is estimated to be over 13,500 people, which is a 30% rise since our last bid. The majority live in poorer wards such as Stanmore Park, Roxbourne, Edgware, and Wealdstone. These areas have large numbers of poor-quality statutory housing, high levels of unemployment and poverty (above the national average), crime and anti-social behaviour, and other issues. The Harrow Joint Strategic Needs Analysis refresh (2016) backs this up. It shows that the average life expectancy for men is 8 years less, and for women is 4 years less in disadvantaged wards compared to more prosperous areas.

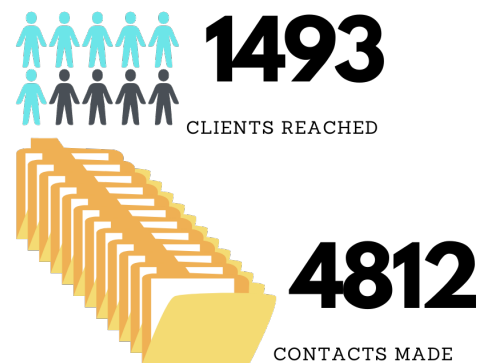
As mentioned earlier, the numbers and in-depth support provided this year has improved the outcomes of our work. This was mainly due to our proactive strategy of following up with the vulnerable individuals and families to offer advice and do enquiries on pressing needs to be supported. An initiative developed as a result of the lockdowns and impact of the pandemic to

our regular drop-ins. In a way this was an added value element to our approach of service from the past conventional strategy as it provided a proactive preventative intervention. Despite the difficulties associated with literacy, digital poverty and internet accessibility, our staff and volunteers worked hard to put barriers aside and achieve positive results.

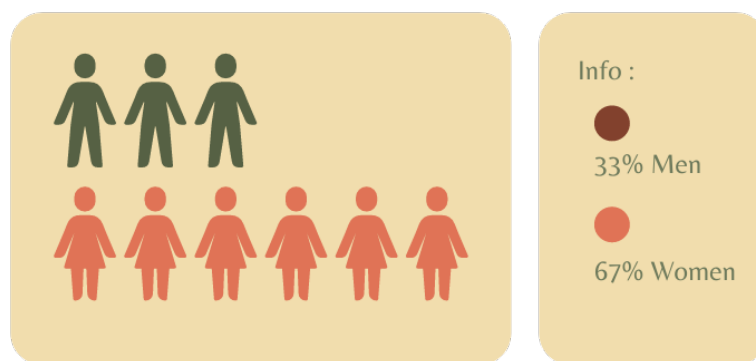
6.1 Advice, advocacy

Overall, the numbers of people benefitting from our different levels of services has surpassed last year's outputs.

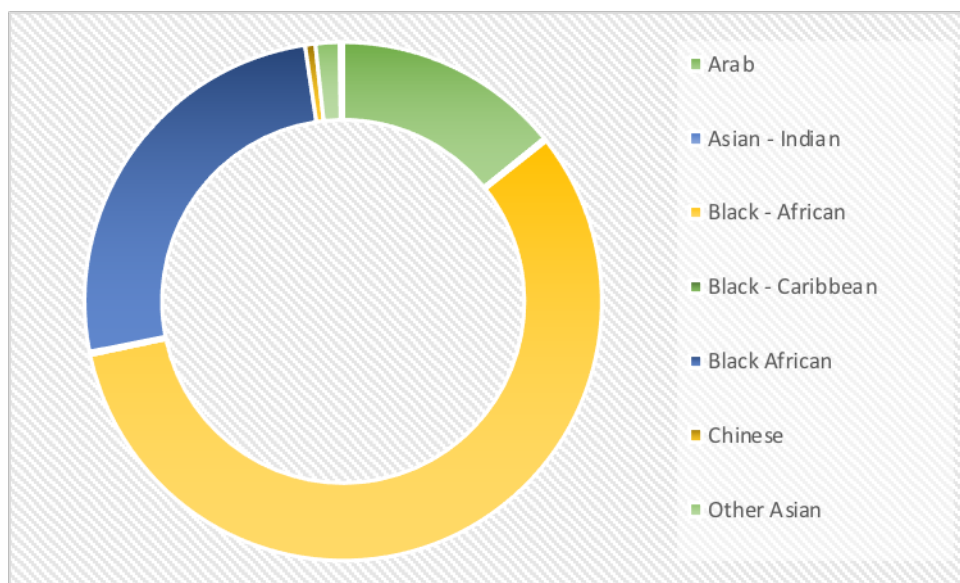
During this year we have made 4812 contacts across our different projects, resulting in supporting 1493 individuals directly from 1213 households.



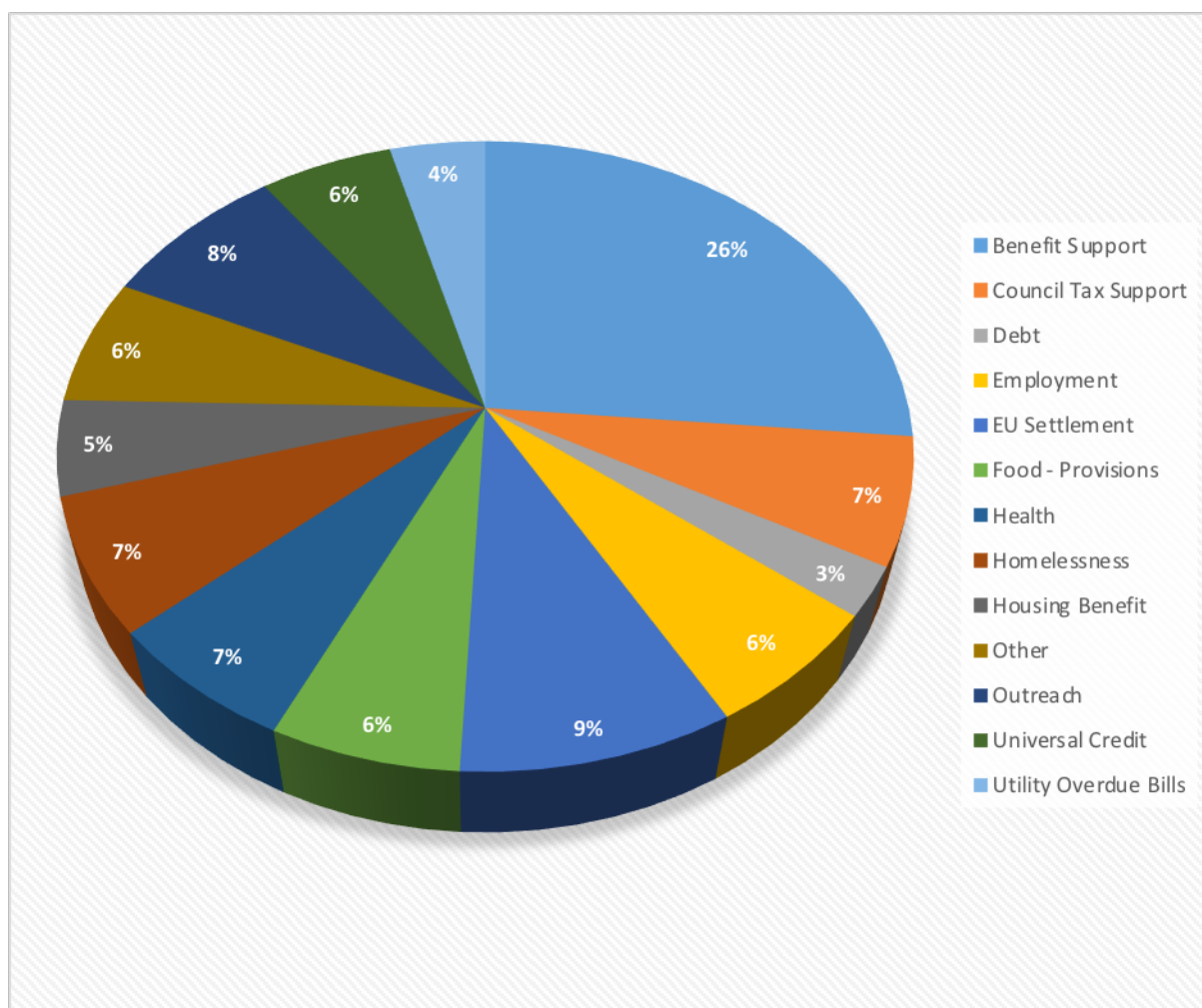
Our beneficiaries were 67% Women and 33% Men and required support across a wide range of issues such as benefits: health awareness, debt, new claim to universal credit, housing, education, and employment support.



Service Users Gender



Service Users Ethnicities



Areas of support provided

6.2. *Provision of Information sessions.*

- We run a wide variety of different information sessions on health issues, substance misuse, access to housing & prevention of homelessness; parenting, home care and support of the elderly. These sessions help clients to improve their mental health, inform them of where they can get support, enhance their parenting skills and empower them to make appropriate decisions about life and healthy living.
- This year, informations were shared through youtube clips and leaflets about current issues specially on Covid -19, vaccine and booster uptake.
- Over 178 people benefitted from our different alternative routes of information and awareness raising sessions. These means of information and messaging has benefitted people remotely.
 - Parenting and prevention of youth crime (2).
 - diabetes and chronic illnesses (2).
 - Health & wellbeing, the role of walking and exercise. (2)
 - Booster vaccine and flu jab uptake (2)

6.3 *Youth activities and school achievement*

We continue to support and engage our young people and parents with young children through multiple interactive activities. Our aim is to improve their wellbeing, happiness and school achievement. Through our engagement with parents and young people we intend to minimize school exclusion/expulsions and prevent young people from drifting into crime.

- A total of 35 young children benefitted from our intensive Year Six examination support programme through our weekly English and Maths sessions.
- Over 200 young people and 120 parents benefitted from our summer outdoor activities and trips conducted between July and August 2021.
- 30 young people successfully completed this year's Youth Quake project implemented in partnership with YOU PRESS and funded by the London Mayors GLA fund.

6.4 Enhancing Health & Wellbeing –Through Community Based Support

This project is part of the CCG's partnership with the voluntary sector to bridge the gaps and address disparity in healthy living; accessibility and health information in order to reduce unnecessary suffering and premature deaths among the new community. The project beneficiaries have an identified significant linguistic and cultural barrier that impacts negatively on their health and accessibility to service.

Our partnership with the CCG and Harrow Council as well as voluntary groups in Harrow and neighbouring Boroughs has proven positive outcomes during the recent pandemic of Covid-19 with increased uptake of relevant preventative information and vaccines by the ethnic minority groups.

Inequalities and disparities in healthcare are not a new problem and strategies have been attempted to tackle such issues in the past. The current reality facing many ethnic minority patients is one of substandard healthcare a reality proven by the recent outbreak of covid-19.

6.4.1 Project Description

The HASVO centre has provided advice and advocacy services for over 17 years in north west London. Staff and volunteers have worked hard to develop partnerships with different local voluntary and council organisations in order to deal with the difficulties faced by the refugees and migrants. longevity and the reliable open doors to all people have made the centre a familiar feature even beyond Harrow, Brent & Ealing Boroughs.

It's a primary level preventative health initiative with the aim of increasing health literacy among people with very little or no background experience of the British Health care system and who in addition have substance misuse and proportionally higher levels of chronic illnesses and mental health .

HASVO plays a key role in the facilitation of group sessions, Volunteer Trainings and information events. Our work is aimed at making people aware of the available options that can enable them to make informed choices & decisions about their health and that of their dependents and family members. We actively encourage and highlight the need to exercise, participate in awareness raising sessions and expert training programmes organised by the public health teams; prevent isolation, enhance employability, improve confidence and help develop social independence.

99% of our beneficiaries have experienced difficult circumstances and violence during exile from their homelands which have left them with serious mental health scars. On the other hand, there is a stigma and shame about mental distress, which frequently leads to secrecy, denial by families 'covering up' mental health problems and individuals hiding their distress or disturbance until it becomes severe and un-manageable.

Somalis and Arabs both believe that mental health problems are spiritual and not treatable through medication, thus there is fear, lack of trust in and perceived lack of credibility of the NHS mental health service. This situation and taboo has limited their access to professional services and complicated the recovery process as well as family and individual capacities for socio economic progress.

Our role in this area is not only limited to referral or sign posting but creating the right environment with the hope of reducing social isolation and therefore reducing the risk of mental health issues arising in the first place. This is achieved through our continuous active support and campaigns for changes amongst delivery agencies and authorities, to help them adjust and better provide support to members of the community.

The voluntary, community and social enterprise sectors contribute to the delivery of health outcomes in different ways including through supply of volunteers into NHS settings & programmes, through delivery of contracted services, through advocacy & representation of patient and community groups, and through direct action on the part of communities. Recent work commissioned by Healthy London Partnerships around Social Prescribing suggests the potential for savings from very well targeted interventions by the voluntary sector groups.

Commissioning small scale community projects like this one is therefore a key means of helping locally for partnerships in order to reduce health inequalities and ill health. It's important to note here the increased significance of the numbers from the new Arab refugees benefiting from this service. This comprehensive outlook helps to address those most in need and enables the role of the social determinants of health to be brought into focus while giving all stakeholders particularly the voluntary sector to see how their work could contribute to the delivery of the strategy.

As health and wellbeing are more than just an illness our comprehensive approach for advancing the issues of the group and addressing their problems before they get complicated is an integral part of the health and healthy living principles and strategies of the North West London Integrated health care CCGs.

7. Parenting Project

HASVO has partnered with the Harrow Council's children Services Department and the Ignite Voluntary group to empower young parents and help them shape their own lives and communities.

The aim is to increase the capacity and community own resources to deal with issues of raising healthy families, dealing problems of school exclusions, income/employment and improving neighbourhood and civic participation.

The overarching approach is to develop parent/carer champions within Harrow's Somali communities to be able to educate, support and signpost other parents and carers on a range of issues and systems such as CSE, CCE and school exclusions.

The training and engagement has been highly praised by the participants and groups engaged. Project activities will continue until next year October 2022 and hopes to reach out the whole Harrow neighbourhoods.

8. Feedback from service users:

We gather feedback from our service users after sessions and periodically to keep up with the views and observations of our beneficiaries.

We pride ourselves with being the only group in Harrow with Arabic and Somali Bilingual teams for five days a week. A service that is proactive, flexible, free and evolves around the needs of the individual and ensures that the vulnerable and less able individuals receive their rights from the mainstream by escorting them or offering free escort, outreach and interpretation support where necessary.

Instant feedback ratings from sessions and events have recorded 98% excellent. Short comings reported are often space and the need for community larger hall which is beyond the financial capacity of HASVO.

Individual comments include:

Ms Z who has joined us 4 years ago from a neighbouring borough to seek help over a serious educational matter with her son who have learning difficulty and expelled from school said in a recent focus group research “HASVO has prevented me from a complete breakdown after my first born was refused access to the school, there comprehensive support and resilience for a positive outcome has resolved my issue and put my family back into shape. I was referred to them by a friend at a time of desperation and I am grateful for their support which they continue to offer me and friends alike. I have now become a volunteer and regular service user.”

A 54-year-old single parent with history of substance misuse, domestic violence and numerous criminal records said “My life have been in turmoil, I was always in debt, went without heating or income many times, was not able to fulfil the requirements for the benefits mainly due to my undiagnosed illnesses. HASVO volunteers and support workers patiently took me through the health care teams until I was treated from TB and my mental health issue was diagnosed. They helped me sort out my debts and I am living happily and independently with my children for the last three years. They were angels sent from heaven for me and my children”.

A 77-year-old pensioner who has nearly lost his home and income said “when my pension income was suspended after I failed to respond to a letter, I lost my housing benefit, and the housing team started the process of repossessing my flat. The HASVO support worker tirelessly helped me to recover my income and suspended the proceedings against eviction. I was not in the best of mind at the time and was unable to manage things properly. Their

intervention and support has awakened me to do things better, their centre also gave me a sense of belonging and company. I am so grateful for their selfless and timely support that helped me stand on my feet again”.

Ms F, is a 38-year-old female who has an undiagnosed ill health and financial troubles for a long time said “I am an illiterate person with no working or educational experience when I came here as a refugee. I often lived with family members and didn’t attend work or school. After a while I got sick with a chronic infection, then I had a fall with multiple fractures. I was homeless and without benefits at some point.

Luckily, the HASVO team helped me to get treatment, a flat and finally an income. Am now comfortably living in my own flat. Whenever I receive a letter even if its advertisement, I bring it to the centre to ensure I don’t fall behind my rent again”.

9. Conclusion

The timely and more in-depth services provided through our door-to-door outreach and befriending team as well as the proactive surveys and networking through telephone follow-ups and WhatsApp group information has been received and commended positively by the client group.

We are confident that the out of hours’ services and improved connectivity with the community and the culturally appropriate nature of our services has played a vital role in ensuring a better coverage and extended much needed public health and Government services to grassroots level.

We were able to come up with alternative strategies to provide support to the community for new issues that faced them as a result of the pandemic, these included addressing food shortages, helping them remotely to access unemployment benefits (Universal Credit) despite the time-consuming digital illiteracy situations and the grieving and burial support advices.

Our intimate knowledge and lived-in experiences of refugee and BME lifestyles has helped us to predict that a large percentage of the community would miss out on their rights due to gaps of knowledge and language limitations. We were able to enable and improve their access and connectivity with the essential facilities and services including take up of vaccinations at a time of pandemics.

We understand gaps of service access and inequality will be with us for the foreseeable near future, but we are working extremely hard to overcome these societal barriers and reduce any inequality gaps present in the health and public services.

HASVO services had an added value benefit to the community and public health providers. Our position in the community network and popularity has helped many lone people and

mental health clients to turn to us during this time. On the other hand, we helped many to reduce their debts and increase their incomes and happiness.

We pride ourselves for being there throughout the week and nearly day and night since people turn to us during individual or household crisis even if its midnight.

Our volunteers and support worker's approach is to follow the individual issues until its resolved. Some clients say that we have learned a means to help ourselves and others in the community as a result of the approach and nature of support we received from HASVO.

Secondly, we are able to provide services to the community at a lower cost which could have costed more to the government and hence saving the government money.

Thirdly, we have improved the network amongst the community, increased their happiness, provided assurances for lone and mental health clients, raised the issues of the community amongst the different mainstream service providers – all these issues were very important for us to address in such an unprecedented time.

Finally, we were able to improve understanding and competence of the service providers about the issues burdening this community.

The issues that were discussed in detail in this report have demonstrated the significance of this organisation and the role in which support workers and volunteers have played in this difficult time to help each other.

All these achievements would not have been possible without the generous contributions of the people and organisations who have funded our activities and continuously offered us their advice and shared their networking.

We are grateful to those who have contributed in their different ways, funding, fundraising, networking, advocacy and partnership.

This is a unique collective work of all the people including volunteers, staff and trustees and agencies who were involved in ensuring that the inequality gaps within this community during this hard season were addressed.

HARROW ASSOCIATION OF SOMALI VOLUNTRY
ORGANISATIONS LIMITED.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

CHARITY INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Status: The organisation is charitable company limited by guarantee incorporated on 26 April 2005.

Governing Documents: The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established under the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. Under this article, the members of the board are elected at the AGM to serve of the period of two years.

Charity Number: 1129442

Company Number 5435204

Registered Office
Operational Office
66 Lower Road
Harrow Middlesex
HA2 0HD

Operational Office
66 Lower Road
Harrow Middlesex
HA2 0HD

Banker
Lloyds Bank
Wembley Branch
Middlesex

Banker
Bank of Ireland
7 St Johns Road
Harrow Middlesex

Independent Examiner
MAAT Abdirahman Amin
3 Bob Currie Close
Harrow
Middlesex HA2 9BF

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The trustees of Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law. Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity and the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgement and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- Prepare the financial statements on going concern bases unless it's inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with companies ACT 2006. 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.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies' regime in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006, and in accordance with the governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 - effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Financial Review

For the year ended 31 March 2021, HASVO LIMITED received total sum of £237,235 of which £219,215 was restricted funds and £18,020 unrestricted funds. Total expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2021 was £179,189 (£161,208 restricted funds and £17,981 unrestricted funds).

This year we managed to respond to the unprecedented need of our services users by increasing our provisions. This resulted in a larger emergency fixed term restricted funds which we received from a range of different donors in order to adapt and deal with the impact of the covid19 pandemic. Our income increased from our standard income of £111,000 to £237,234.56.

In addition to the emergency funding's and our current grants, we also secured a new project grant for three years from the Tudor trust to strengthen our drop-in service by providing outreach and additional advice sessions with two additional part-time workers from both genders to further facilitate our reach and preventative work.

The rest of the extra income which is equivalent to £ 107,094.96 was earmarked for a fixed term period for combating the covid19 and addressing the acute needs of the community as a result of the pandemic.

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

These funds are mainly to be spent on short term staffing, equipment; publicity materials, digital support and developing our IT remote system.

We are grateful for our grantors for their support and ongoing understanding during the pandemic.

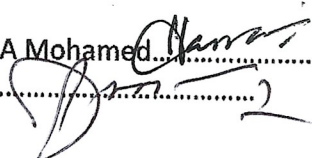
To Harrow Council, the Harrow CCG and Public Health Harrow who have tirelessly supported us with our local strategies in tackling the local pandemic response initiatives.

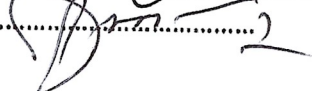
To the Trust for London, The Henry Smith Charity the Greater London Authority, Tudor Trust, London Community Funders, Refugee Action and The National Lottery for their ongoing funding and support during this crisis.

Through the funding that we were able to secure during this reporting period we have been able to address the wellbeing of our staff, volunteers and deliver projects that were responding to deal effectively with the issues surrounding BAME groups, refugees and asylum seekers during this difficult time.

Last but not least thanks to the extra ordinary and selfless contributions from our voluntary sector partners i.e. the Harrow Mencap, Harrow Voluntary action, Mind, the Harrow Young foundation; Harrow Law Centre, Harrow Citizens Advice Bureau, our local IAPT Team, Harrow Carers, Help Harrow and the Harrow food bank for their support and partnership work to better support the community.

Trustees

Director: Cabdulqaadir A Mohamed.....

Trustee: Ahmed Yusuf.....

Date 26/06/2021

Independent Examiners Appointed

MAAT. Abdirahman Amin was appointed as the charity independent examiner during the year and has expressed his willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 26 June 2021

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 set out on pages five to nine.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required. It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- State whether matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records.

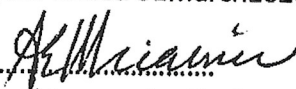
It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

(2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached. The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Abdirahman Amin.....
Licensed Association of Accounting Technician
BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance

3 Bob Currie Close
Harrow, Middlesex
HA2 9BF

19/06/2021

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2021.

Description	General Funds	Restricted Funds	2020/21 Total	2019/2020 Total
	£	£	£	£
Grant and Donations	18,020	219,215	237,235	111,943
Other Incoming Recourses	-	-	-	-
Total Incoming Recourses	<u>18,020</u>	<u>219,215</u>	<u>237,235</u>	<u>111,943</u>
Recourses Expended				
Office Administration and equipment	16,880	22,700	39,580	9,270
Estates Facilities Cost	-	8,179	8,179	8,750
Charitable Activities	-	130,329	130,329	83,366
Accountants and Governance	1,101.0	-	1,101.0	433
Total Resources Expended	<u>17,981</u>	<u>161,208</u>	<u>179,189</u>	<u>101,820</u>
Incoming Outgoing Recourses Before Transfer	39	58,007	58,046	10,123
Funds Brought Forward at 31 March 2020	16,224	37,004	53,227	43,104
Total Funds C/F at 31 March 2021	<u>16,263</u>	<u>95,011</u>	<u>111,273</u>	<u>53,227</u>

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

Statement of Balance Sheet for the Year Ended 31 March 2021.

Description	General Funds	Restricted Funds	2020/21 Total	2019/20 Total
Fixed Assets	£	£	£	£
Equipment	210.0	7041	7,251.0	210
Other Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-
Total Fixed Assets	210.0	7041	7,251.0	210
Current Assets				
Debtors	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	16,263	95,010	111,273	53,227
Total Current Assets	16,263	95,010	111,273	53,227
Creditors Amounts Falling due within one year	(150)	(5,391)	(5,541)	-
Net Current Asset (Liability)	16,113	89,619	105,732	53,227
Total Assets less (Current Liability)	16,323	96,660	112,983	53,437
Creditors Amounts falling due after one year	(60)	(1,650)	(1,710)	(210)
Net Assets	16,263	95,010	111,273	53,227

Funds Available for the next six Months

Years	2020/21	2019/20
Employee Liability. Contingency	15,200	12,260
Rent and Council Tax	14,723	14,723
Project Manager Salary	10,020	10,020
General Funds	16,263	16,224
Other On-going Projects	55,067	0
Total Funds	111,273	53,227

AUDIT EXCEMPTION STATEMENT

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

For the year ending 31 March 2021, the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for its accounts in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of records.

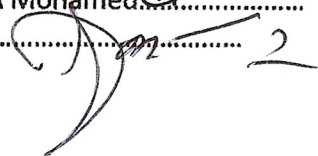
- a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.
- c) These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees.

18/06/2021

Trustees

Director: Cabdulqaadir A Mohamed.....

Trustee: Ahmed Yusuf.....

Date 18/06/2021

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of Preparation of the Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008), the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in March 2005.

1.2 Incoming resources Donations, legacies and other forms of voluntary income are recognised as incoming resources when receivable, except insofar as they are incapable of financial measurement. All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income: Voluntary income and donations are included in incoming resources when they are receivable, except when the donors specify that they must be used in future accounting periods or certain conditions have not been fulfilled, then the income is deferred.

Grants where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

1.3 Resources expended

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them. Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the Independent Examiner's fee and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource.

1.4 Grants

1.4.1.

Grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities on the earlier date of when they are received or when they are receivable unless it is specified that they are for a future accounting period, in which case they are included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be recognised in those future accounting periods.

1.4.2

Unrestricted funds are the funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

1.5 Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation, Tangible Fixed Assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of each asset over their expected useful life, as follows: Fixtures fittings and equipment: 20% Straight Line Basis

1.6 Financial review: Reserves Policy

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited holds funds from its reserves. The current financial risk is low however the trust has a policy to hold a reserve of £30,000 to cover six month's operating costs.

Harrow Association of Somali Voluntary Organisations Limited.

3. Tangible Fixed assets

Tangible Fixed Assets	Equipment
Cost	£
Cost as at 1 April 2016	3,457
Additions	8,575.0
Revaluation	-
Disposal	-
Cost as at 31 March 2020	<u>12,032</u>
Depreciation	
Depreciation on 1 April 2020	3,247
Charges for the period	1534.12
On Disposal	-
Total depreciation at 31 March 2021	<u>4,781</u>
Net Book Value at 31 March 2021	<u>7,251</u>
Net Book Value at 31 March 2020	<u><u>201</u></u>