



ANNUAL REPORT

2020-2021



**Harrow Association of
Somali Voluntary Organisations**

Table of Contents

1. Introduction:	3
2. Partnership	5
3. Standard/Quality of Services:	6
4. Annual General Meeting:	6
5. HASVO's Aims & outcomes during the year 2020-21	8
6. Summary of Major outputs during 2021:	9
6.1 Advice, advocacy	10
6.2. <i>Provision of Information sessions</i>	12
6.3 <i>Youth activities and school achievement</i>	12
6.4 Enhancing Health & Wellbeing –Through Community Based Support	13
6.4.1 Project Description	13
7. Parenting Project	14
8. Feedback from service users:	15
9. Conclusion	16
10. Financial Statement	18

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.

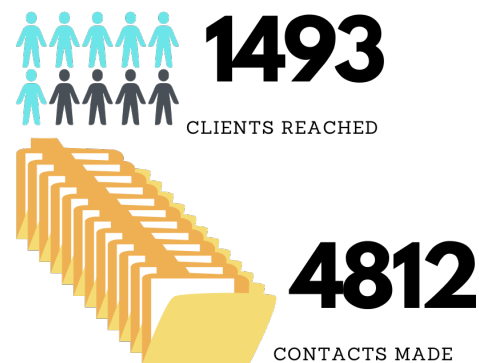
As mentioned earlier, the numbers and in-depth support provided this year has improved the outcomes of our work. This was mainly due to our proactive strategy of following up with the vulnerable individuals and families to offer advice and do enquiries on pressing needs to be supported. An initiative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

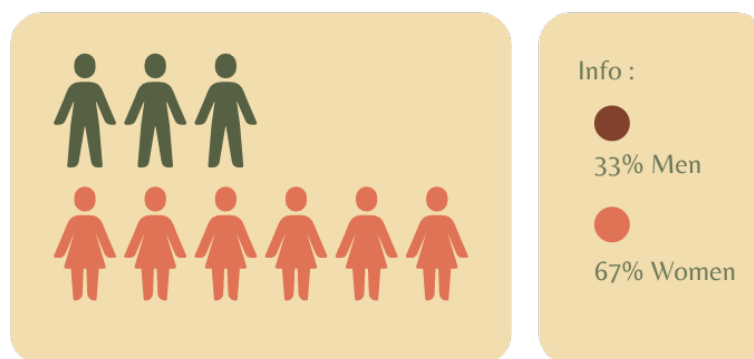
6.1 Advice, advocacy

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

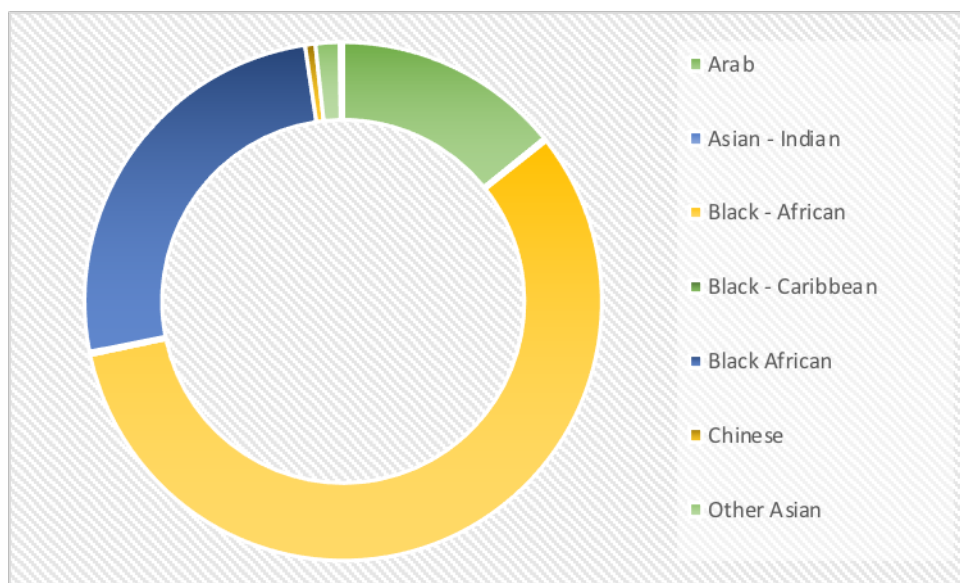
During this year we have made 4812 contacts across our different projects, resulting in supporting 1493 individuals directly from 1213 households.



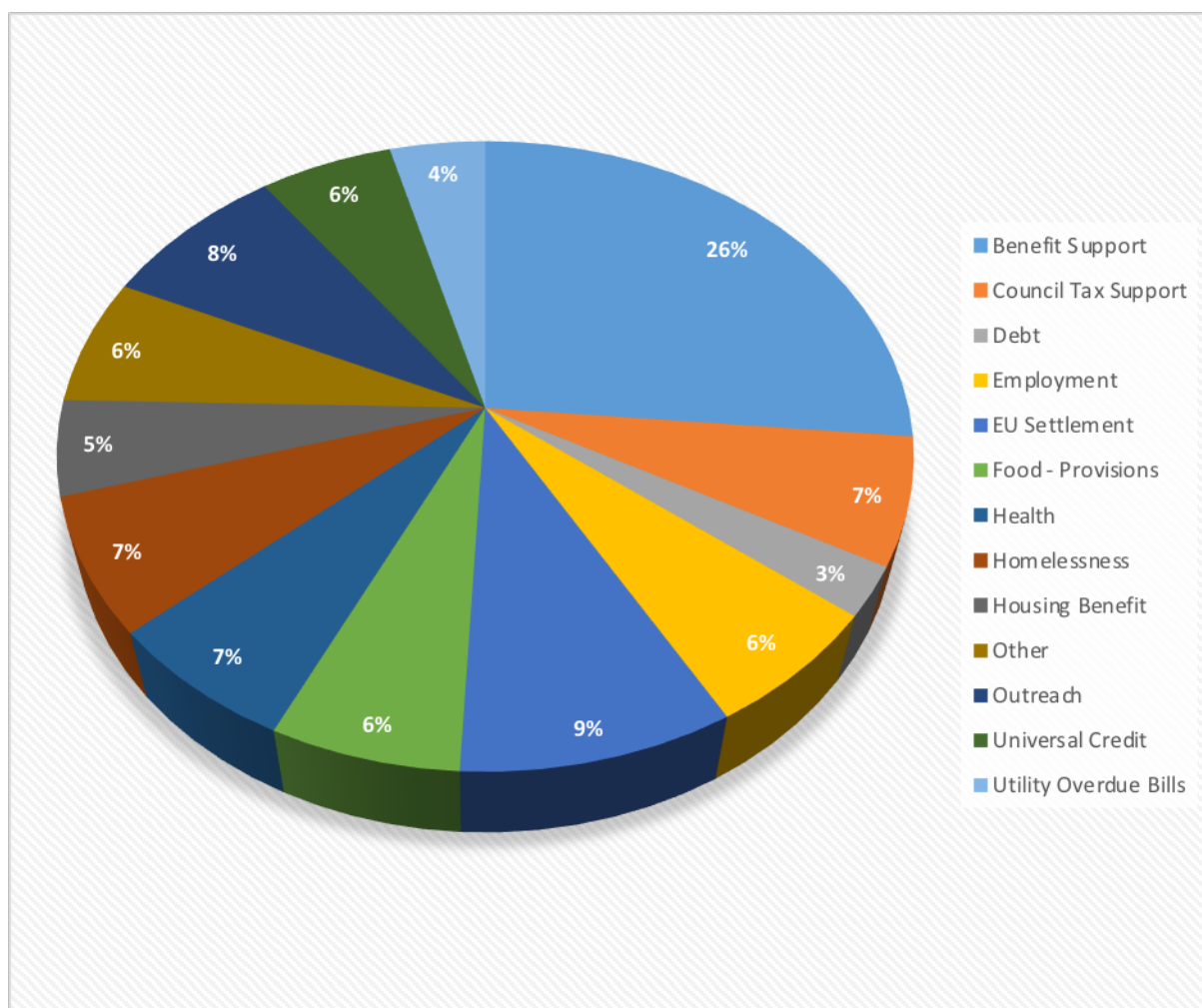
Our beneficiaries were 67% Women and 33% Men and required support across a wide range of issues such as benefits: health awareness, debt, new claim to universal credit, housing, education, and employment support.



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

Index of Financial Statement

Statement	Page
Index.....	1
Charity Information.....	2
Statement of Responsibilities	3-4
Independent Examiner's Report.....	5
Statement of Financial Activities.....	6
Balance Sheet.....	7
Audit Exemption.....	8
Notes to the Accounts.....	9-11

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.

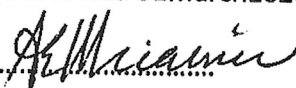
It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether 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>