



ANNUAL REPORT 2023 – 2024



**Sunderland
City Council**



Funded by
UK Government

POWERED BY
**LEVELLING
UP**

Charity No: 1130886 ♦ Company No: 06825908

CHAIRS' FOREWORD

Sunderland BME Network have had a very busy year, building upon the hard work of previous years to establish the Network as a key organisation within the City of Sunderland.

Sunderland BME Network have continued to grow and develop over the previous year. With major funding secured from the National Lottery and key roles in partnerships delivering both Household Support Fund (Rounds IV & V) and UK Shared Prosperity Fund (Enterprising Sunderland).

The Network has now grown to 13 members (11 full members and 2 associate members) with the potential to grow to 16 members over the next 6 months.

There is, however, still much to do and as a Network we will continue to develop, seek opportunity, improve partnerships and ultimately improve the opportunities available to BME communities in Sunderland.

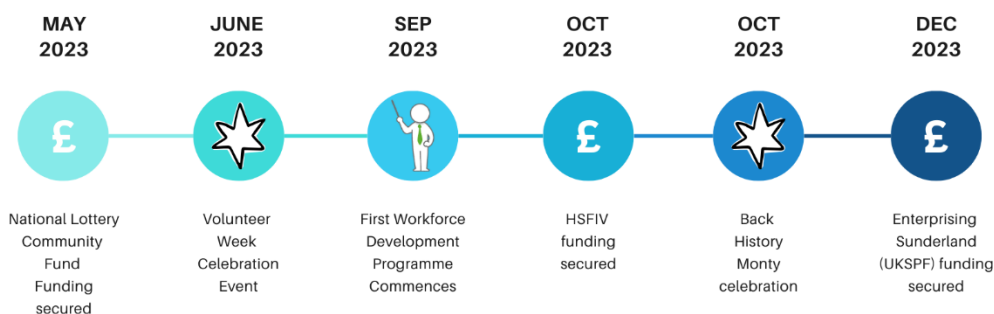
Rachidy Bikaya

Chair – Sunderland BME Network

YEAR IN REVIEW

The previous year has been a busy year for SBMEN. Since the last AGM, SBMEN leveraged in **£112k** resources for the benefit of both the VCS sector and Global Majority residents in the city.

TIMELINE



- **57** individuals taken part in workforce development training sessions
- **2** High profile celebration events held
- **182** individuals benefitted from themed celebration events
- **12** Global Majority VCS organisations supported
- **19** Global Majority residents assisted in business development

PROJECTS

SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BME VCS SECTOR

funded by The National Lottery Community Fund

In May 2023 Sunderland BME Network secured 3 years funding through the National Lottery Community Fund. The funding supports some of the core functions of SBMEN, including; organisation development, workforce development training, research and thematic events.

Organisation Development

SBMEN offer a wide range of support and advice to emerging, new and established VCS organisations within the city, including – governance structures and governing document development, policy & procedure development and business and strategic planning.

Organisations Supported

- New Horizon
- Sunderland International Tamil Community
- African Societal Artistique of Sunderland
- Sunderland Bangladesh International Centre
- Fightback

Funding Advice & Support

Offering a range of advice and services relating to funding and diversifying income streams, including; project planning and financing, funding research, assistance with funding applications, investigating contracting and trading opportunities and other non-grant funding methods

Organisations Supported

- African Societal Artistique of Sunderland
- New Horizon
- Sunderland International Tamil Community

Workforce Development

Across the year SBMEN have delivered **15** workforce development sessions covering a range of topics, including;

- Safeguarding
- Risk Assessment
- Project Planning
- Trustee Roles & Responsibilities
- Introduction to Volunteering

In total **125** training places were filled by **57** unique individuals representing **8** Global Majority VCS Organisations

Research

Over the reporting period SBMEN have undertaken both desk based and field research as a way of better understanding the societal, economic and cultural shifts that impact Global Majority communities in Sunderland. This has included;

- Cost of Living Crisis
- Asylum Seeker / Refugee Skills
- VCS Workforce Development Audit
- Interpretation of Census 2021 data

Thematic Events

During the reporting period 2 high profile events were organised and delivered by Sunderland BME Network

Volunteer Week Celebration – 01/06/23

The event was planned to celebrate the contribution of Global Majority volunteers within the city and tie in with National Volunteer Week. The event was a great success with over 80 individuals in attendance



Black History Month Celebration – 28/10/23

Saturday 28th October saw a Black History Month celebration event hosted at Sunderland City Hall. The theme of the event in 2023 was 'Saluting Our Sisters' and included a presentation from Marsha Garrett as well as cultural entertainment and food. Over 200 individuals of all ages and backgrounds attended the event



HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND

Funded by the UK Government

Sunderland BME Network have been integral in securing, managing and administering all 5 rounds of Household Support Fund (Sunderland City

Council). The fund is designed to support the most vulnerable residents with assistance with energy, food and other associated costs.

Over the course of the rounds 1 – 4, SBMEN in partnership with delivery partners* has delivered approximately **£110,717** in awards to members of the the Global Majority community in Sunderland

Delivery Partners

- Fightback
- Friends of the Drop In
- International Community Organisation Sunderland
- New Horizon
- Sunderland Bangladesh International Centre
- Youn Asian Voices

HSFV is due to commence in June 2024 and run until 30th September 2024

ENTERPRISING SUNDERLAND

Funded by the UK Government (UKSPF)

In November 2023 Sunderland BME network were successful in securing approximately £22k to employ a Global Majority Enterprise Worker for 15 months, as part of the Enterprising Sunderland project funded through UKSPF.

The project offers a range of support to members of the Global Majority community who may be considering enterprise as a form of employment, this support includes;

- Advice on business structures
- Insurances
- Finance and cashflow
- SWOT / PEST analysis
- Unique selling point (USP)
- Risk register
- Overall support with business plan development.

The project commenced in January 2024 and has worked with 20 individuals (15 businesses / potential businesses)

FUTURE PLANS

Membership

SBMEN will continue to work toward expanding both its full and associated membership. The Network is currently working with three organisations who will hopefully apply for full membership within the next 6 months

Events

SBMEN are working toward delivering another fantastic Black History Month event in October 2024. The theme for this years event is 'Reclaiming Narratives'

SUNDERLAND BME NETWORK MEMBERS

Full Members

- African Societal Artistique of Sunderland
- African Women Voices
- Fightback
- Friends of the Drop-In
- International Community Organisation of Sunderland
- Lighthouse
- New Horizon
- North of England Refugee Service
- Sunderland Bangladesh International Centre
- Sunderland Tamil Community Association
- Young Asian Voices

Associate Members

- Back on the Map
- NECA

BOARD & STAFF

Board of Directors

Rachidy Bikaya (New Horizon)	Chair
Abu Shama (Sunderland Bangladesh International Centre)	Secretary
Lacina Diabate (African Societal Artistique of Sunderland)	Treasurer
Kumareswaradas Ramanathas (Young Asian Voices)	Director
Julia Wysocka (International Community Organisation Sunderland)	Director

Staff Team

Rob Charlton	Manager
Halimatou Jallow John	Engagement Worke

SUNDERLAND BLACK AND MINORITY ETHNIC NETWORK LIMITED

Directors Report and Financial Statements For the period 1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024

Company No. 06825908

Charity No. 1130886

Prepared By:

Julie Maxwell MICB
11 Edith Street
Jarrow
NE32 5HS

Legal and Administrative

Registered office address

Sunderland Black and Minority Ethnic Network
30 Tatham Street
Sunderland
SR1 2QD

Company Number: 06825908

Charity Number: 1130886

Officers

Kumāreswaradas Ramanathas

Abu Shama

Rachidy Bikaya

Lacina Diabate

Julia A Wysocka

Bankers

HSBC Bank

Sunderland Black and Minority Ethnic Network Limited Company No. 06825908 Charity No. 1130886
The directors for the purposes of company law have pleasure in presenting their report and the unaudited financial statements of Sunderland Black and Minority Ethnic Network Ltd (The Company) for the period ended 31st March 2024

Principle Activity

The objects of The Company are to carry on activities, which benefit the community, and in particular (without limitation)

- To promote the effective use of charitable resources for the benefit of the public and black and minority (BME) charities and voluntary organisations in Sunderland and the North East
- To promote the BME voluntary sector for the benefit of the public in Sunderland and the North East.

Statement of trustee's responsibilities

The directors for the purposes of company law are responsible for preparing the Directors Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting standards.


Company Law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the company for that year preparing the financial statements the directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation

The Directors are responsible for keeping accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company 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 special provisions relating to small companies within part 15 of the companies Act 2006.

On behalf of the board

Director Signature  Name RACHIDA BIRKAYA
Date 07/06/2024

Independent Examiners Report

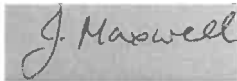
I report on the financial statements of The Company for the period ended 31st March 2024

Independent Examiners 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:
 - i. To keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - ii. To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- (2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable to proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Date 07/06/2024

Julie Maxwell – Independent Examiner

MICB
11 Edith Street
Jarrow
Tyne and Wear
NE32 5HS

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Period ended 31/03/2024

	2024
	£
Income	86085
Expenditure	87066
Operating Surplus	<u>-981</u>
Interest receivable and similar income	0
Surplus on ordinary activities before taxation	<u>-981</u>
Tax surplus on ordinary activities March 2019 (20%)	3 0
Surplus of the financial year	<u><u>-981</u></u>

Statement of Financial Position**period ended 31/03/2024**

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Restricted Income £	Unrestricted Income £	Total £	Total £
<u>Income</u>				
Grant Income	83,316	1,500	84,816	76479
Other Income		1,269	1,269	349
Bank Interest			0	0
Misc Income			0	0
Total Income	83,316	2,769	86,085	76828
<u>Payments</u>				
Staff Costs	31,452	1,693	33,145	3119
Running Costs	5,512	1,887	7,404	5291
Governance		150	150	350
Direct Expenses	46,065		46,065	95914
Travel and Subs			0	0
Consultants	282	21	303	0
Total Payments	83,311	3,750	87,066	104,674
Net Receipts	5	-981	-981	-27,847
Transfer between funds				
Balance at 01/04/2023	0	14220	14,220	42066
Balance at 31/03/2024	5	13,239	13,239	14,219

Balance Sheet as at 31/03/2024

	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
Fixed Assets		0.00		0.00
Current Assets				
Debtors				
Deposits at Cash and Bank	13,594	13,594	14,570	14,570
Current Liabilities				
Creditors: Short Term	355		350	
Prepayments		355		350
Current Assets less Current Liabilities		13,239		14,220
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		13,239		14,220
Long Term Liabilities		0		0
Total Assets Less Total Liabilities		13,239		14,220
Represented By:				
Balance Bfwd		14,220		42,065
Profit and Loss Account		-981		-27,846
Balance		13,239		14,220

For the Financial Year in question, The Company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required The Company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year 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 periods and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS 102 SORP

Approved by the Board for issue on 07/06/2024
 Director Name RACHIDY BIKAYH Director Signature BIKAYH

Company No. 06852908 Charity No. 1130886

1. Accounting Policies

1.1 Accounting Convention

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

1.2 Income

Income from fees is recognised in the accounts when invoiced unless it relates to future accounting periods, in which case it is deferred and included in creditors

Grants / Income receivable are credited to incoming resources on the earlier date of when they are received or when they are receivable, unless they relate specifically to a future accounting period, in which case, they are deferred.

Where a grant is received relating to a future accounting period, the profit and loss account shows the gross amount together with the changes in the amount deferred to future accounting periods. Deferred grant income at the year-end is included in creditors.

1.3 Expenditure

Expenditure is brought in to the financial statements on the accruals basis

1.4 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed Assets are initially recorded at cost

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of the assets, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

20% straight line

2 Trading Profit and Losses

	2024
	£
Balance B/Fwd	14,220
Profits used against trading profits	<u>(981)</u>
	13,239

3 Taxation on ordinary activities

	2024 £
Current Tax	
Tax based on period 31st March 2021	0
Amount written back from previous period	0
Tax Charge to Income and Expenditure	0

4 Tangible Fixed Assets

	£
Net Book Value on transfer	0
Additions in period	0
Cost at 31 st March 2022	0
Depreciation	
Charge for year	0
Total as at 31 st March 2023	0
Net Book Value	
At 1 st April 2023	0

5 Debtors:

2024
£ 0

£ 0

6 Creditors: falling due in one year

2024
£

Trade Creditors

Accruals - Accounts	350
Other	5

355

7. Funds

	<i>Balance at 1st April 2023</i>	<i>Receipts</i>	<i>Payments</i>	<i>Transfer</i>	<i>Balance at 31st March 2024</i>
Restricted					
The National Lottery Community Fund – Reaching Communities North East and Cumbria	0	44,566	44,566		0
HSF III and IV	0	38,750	38,750		0
	0	83,316	83,316	0	0
Unrestricted	14,220	2,769	3,750		13,239
Total Funds	14,220	86,085	87,066	0	13,239

Income and Expenditure 2024

Income	£ Restricted	£ Unrestricted	£ Total
The National Lottery Community Fund – Reaching Communities North East and Cumbria'	44,566		44,566
Sunderland City Council HSF IV	38,750		38,750
Sunderland City Council Partnership		1,500	1,500
New Horizon		1,183	1,183
other		86	86
	83,316	2,769	86,085
Direct Expenses			
Delivery Partners - HSF III	5,635		5,635
Delivery Partners - HSF IV	36,744		36,744
Events	3,686		3,686
Staff Costs (Inc Ni)	31,452	1,692	33,144
Consultants			0
Total Direct Expenses	77,517	1,692	79,209
Gross Profit/(Loss):	5,799	1,077	6,877
Overheads			
Annual Accounts		350	350
Telephone & Broadband	1,692	423	2,114
Rent	2,727	673	3,400
Insurance	417	104	522
Fees and Subs	676	169	846
Sundries		34	34
Equipment		289	289
Professional Fees	282	21	303
			0
Total Overheads	5,794	2,063	7,858
Net Profit/(Loss):	£5	-£986	-£981

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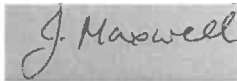
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At 1 st April 2023	0

5 **Debtors:**

	2024
	£ 0
	£ 0

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	2024
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Trade Creditors	
Accruals - Accounts	350
Other	5
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7. Funds

	<i>Balance at 1st April 2023</i>	<i>Receipts</i>	<i>Payments</i>	<i>Transfer</i>	<i>Balance at 31st March 2024</i>
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