MASLAHA

England & Wales · Charity number 1139560

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	07309979
Registered	2010-12-29
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Maslaha Oxford House Derbyshire Street Bethnal Green London E2 6HG
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Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE SUBJECT OF THE ISLAMIC FAITH AND ITSPRACTICE AND TO THEREBY PROMOTE A GREATER AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF ISLAM ANDITS DAILY PRACTICE AMONGST MUSLIMS AND NON-MUSLIMS ALIKE; ANDTO PROMOTE EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN PARTICULAR BUT NOTEXCLUSIVELY BY:(A) RAISING PUBLIC SECTOR AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF ISLAM AND THE NEED FORSERVICES THAT ARE APPROPRIATELY TAILORED FOR AND SENSITIVE TO THE PRACTICES OFMUSLIM COMMUNITIES; AND(B) PROMOTING AND INFORMING DIALOGUE, DEBATE AND GREATER UNDERSTANDING BETWEENMUSLIMS AND NON-MUSLIMS ON ISSUES OF COHESION AND INTEGRATION.

Activities: HEALTH RESOURCES E.G. WWW.TALKINGFROMTHEHEART.ORGEDUCATIONAL RESOURCESEXHIBITIONS, EXPLORING HISTORY, ART AND IDENTITY E.G. WWW.THEBOOKOFTRAVELS.ORG AND WWW.ICANBESHE.ORGCRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM WORK

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Birmingham City
- Doncaster
- Leicester City
- Peterborough City
- Throughout London

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£399,320	£420,397	-	-
2024-03-31	£429,683	£459,500	-	-
2023-03-31	£528,605	£340,153	£743,795	5
2022-03-31	£558,476	£376,428	£555,343	5
2021-03-31	£437,463	£353,282	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alia Alzougbi		2022-09-09
Dr Shereen Fernandez		2023-05-19
Jane Earl		2017-02-03
Jodie Beck		2024-03-07
Sameer Rahim		2017-02-06

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MASLAHA

England & Wales - Charity number 1139560

Accounts

maslaha

ANNUAL REPORT 2024—2025

The reporting period for the annual report is April 2024-April 2025.

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Foreword

Small hands pick up crayons, markers, coloured paper, stickers, and glue and begin to ask questions about history, flags and coins. Importantly, they feel free to express their views on their heritage and history. Based in a community gallery in Birmingham, parents/carers and children learn together, unburdened by the need to be cautious about celebrating who they are.

Our Schools with Roots team, who deliver this programme, are then able to adapt this learning space to create training for teachers. The community is then also helping to shape pedagogy.

Community spaces and training like this have become even more important after the racist riots in the summer of 2024 and a significant far-right march in London in 2025. These events have left communities we work with feeling afraid and questioning their sense of belonging in this country.

But what has also become clear is the breadth of community organising and advocacy we need to enable communities to feel safe and to feel that they have a right to shape society.

This report highlights the ongoing work Muslim Girls Fence carries out in schools and in community centres which is both joyful in its physicality and creativity, but also a safe place to explore the impact of Islamophobia and misogyny. Excitingly, a number of young people who went through the MGF programme are now also facilitators and coaches, delivering and designing programmes.

Recognising the importance of this work, the Women and Equalities Select Committee invited the team to give oral evidence on gendered Islamophobia. The Deputy Mayor of London for Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, also visited our programme running in east London.

Our Schools with Roots programme has been regularly working with the University of East London, and the University of Birmingham. The team delivered a series of lectures and seminars for trainee teachers on how racism plays out in schools, tools for building sustainable relationships with parents/carers and the wider community, and how to create cultures of safety through safeguarding practice.

The success of these workshops has meant that we are also being asked to provide training for social workers or those working in the creative industries such as Birmingham Hippodrome. The coming year will also see us delivering training to unions and other educational bodies.

Our criminal justice work continues to highlight abuse of rights Muslims face in prison in our reports and data collection on issues such as the disproportionate use of force Muslims face. We also continue to work with national criminal justice charities such as Samaritans to improve their vital services while building alternative community interventions to support people once they are released.

In response to the racist riots we also saw thousands of people take to the streets to stand with their neighbours, refusing to give up the public space to racism. This spirit of solidarity and care is also fundamental to our work and will be vital in our year ahead.

Love your neighbour

Why Maslaha?

The past few years have seen a heightened focus on Muslim communities and Islam across the UK and abroad. The combination of terrorist attacks, war, political decisions, and social deprivation have all shaped with an intense pace how Muslims are seen and thought of in the public imagination. It has been out of this difficult period that Maslaha began as an idea to eventually become an independent organisation.

Maslaha translates from the Arabic as 'for the common good' and this is the driving force behind all our work.

Despite this tense history our overwhelming experience has been that our partners from every sector of society are committed to, and believe, that it is possible to create empowered Muslim communities. Maslaha translates from the Arabic as 'for the common good' and this is the driving force behind all our work. We tackle the most immediate social issues affecting Muslim communities today as well as creating a greater understanding of Islam from a cultural and historical perspective.

The name Maslaha is also important because it is about changing the language that is used about Muslims and Islam. We need to expand our language and vocabulary if we are to tackle some of our biggest issues, and if we are to give communities the space to think for themselves and speak on their own terms. Muslims represent the largest minority faith group in the UK and constitute an ethnically diverse population with a very young age profile. A significant proportion of this population lives in deprived inner-city areas, and Muslims have higher levels of unemployment, economic inactivity, ill health, educational achievement, and poor housing conditions than all other faith groups.

Our health work, for example, recognizes that Muslim communities experience disproportionately high health inequalities around conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, pregnancy and depression. A contributing factor to this is that both health services and communities are not equipped to appropriately tackle the root causes of these issues and engage with the complex realities of all patients' lives.

The way we approach this in our health interventions is to create resources for both patients and practitioners that combine faith advice and cultural references with medical advice. We then embed these resources in the everyday spaces of communities, as well as nationally. By doing this we have reached over 19,500 patients and health professionals and our resources are endorsed by NHS trusts across the country, the Royal College of GPs (RCGP) and medical curricula in universities.

One of Maslaha's strengths is bringing together a diverse mix of people within and between each project: supporters and partners include the young and the elderly, nurses and teachers, artists and academics, imams and historians, policy makers and school pupils, and those who do have a faith and those who do not. Our projects straddle a number of sectors and this unusual mix of people has led to new networks of collaboration and new perspectives on how social issues can be tackled.

Our Strategy

Maslaha's working strategy puts communities at the centre of making change happen. Our vision – that Muslim communities are empowered to overcome social inequalities – can only be truly achieved through working closely with communities, and by recognising their role as active proponents of that change. Our strategy will guide our workover the coming years and enable us to effectively work towards our objectives of reducing levels of deprivation amongst Muslim communities and challenging stereotypes.

Maslaha has produced award-winning and ground-breaking resources, driven by an ability to engage with communities, service providers, and decision-makers alike, to reach across perceived institutional divides, and to empower and enable motivated individuals and organisations to pursue good ideas based on a lived understanding of particular needs.

This approach informs all of our work, and is key to Maslaha's ability to implement our strategy effectively.

Our Areas of Work

HEALTH Muslim communities frequently have trouble accessing health services. A lack of shared language between patients, communities and health practitioners contributes to challenges in accessing support, and that support being relevant and appropriate.

EDUCATION There are high levels of underachievement and disengagement among young Muslims, which are linked toa lack of appropriate support and culturally relevant curriculums and impacted by negative stereotypes and misconceptions that surround Islam and Muslim communities, and their relationship with wider society.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE The number of Muslims in prison has more than doubled over the past 15 years and their experience, treatment and outcomes in prison are consistently more negative compared to non-Muslims. Negative stereotyping has been shown to act as a barrier to opportunity and engagement with services for Muslims in prison.

GENDER Muslim women and girls face complex discrimination that arises from the intersections of their faith, race, gender and other identities. This in turn creates complex challenges and barriers for them across society including in areas such as employment and education. For example, Muslim women are70% more likely to be unemployed than white Christian women.

Our Strategic Goals

1. Educating public service providers and wider society to better understand Muslim and other marginalized communities.

2. Influencing systemic change and replicating local success at a national level.

3. Educating and empowering Muslim communities.

4. Building a well-functioning organisation with financial and organisational sustainability.

We carry out our strategic objectives by working across three defined areas: practice, policy and public imagination. Each social issue will require a different mix of these, but by working across all of them we ensure our work can achieve real and lasting impact.

PRACTICE Working practically with communities at a grassroots local level.

POLICY Changing practice at a local level can only be sustained by sharing our learning at a strategic level and ensuring that this informs future policy decisions.

PUBLIC IMAGINATION Influencing, and where possible shaping, public debates and media narratives. We com-bine creativity with everyday action and engagement to find new ways to connect and communicate.

RIGHT OF PRIVACY
CHANGE NOW!
FREEDOM OF RELIGION
Singled out as muslim students.
PROTECT MUSLIM WOMENS RIGHTS
feelings of unsafe & unsafe.
Presence of male teachers No equality
No privacy. Can't fix hijab. Pressure of men.
UNSAFE!
BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS??
Controlled and punished for religious expression.
PRIVACY NOW!

Case Studies

1 Educating public service providers and wider society to better understand Muslim and other marginalised communities

Muslim Girls Fence

Impact of Islamophobia and racism on Muslim women and girls' wellbeing and safety

Following a summer of racist riots, it became even more important to work with service providers and wider society to increase an understanding of Muslim and other marginalised communities, and the impact of Islamophobia and racism on Muslim women and girls' wellbeing and safety. The Islamophobia, racism and anti-migrant violence we have witnessed on the streets has deeply affected young people's mental health, feelings of safety and belonging. As a result, several plans for the summer were cancelled, as young people did not feel safe to come to sessions. This eruption of violent racism has long been simmering under the surface. What is happening is a direct result of years of normalised racism and Islamophobia, enabled by mainstream politicians, policies like Prevent Duty and the British media. It is important to recognise how Muslim teenagers, especially Muslim girls and women, face risks to their safety when Islamophobic rhetoric is high and terror attacks are blamed on Muslims, and how the ongoing portrayal of Muslims by the media and politicians has long-term effects on their mental health, while also shaping the way others, including services, mental health providers, and schools, treat them.

We have worked with funders for them to understand Muslim communities better through delivering an Induction Day talk on MGF for Comic Relief, highlighting good practice and the impacts of structural Islamophobia on young people's mental health. In November 2024, we delivered a "Lunch and Learn" on *Challenging Structural Islamophobia in Everyday Practice* to over 50 mental health professionals with the Children and Young People's Mental Health Coalition again to provide further education on the impacts of Islamophobia, sexism and racism on young Muslim's mental health, and to share recommendations for strengthening anti-racist practice and improving services for the Muslim community.

In the sports sector, we have been developing coach training with Archery GB, British Fencing, Sunnah Sports, and the Muslim Scouts Association in Tower Hamlets to create more inclusive spaces in sports and support more women coaches. In partnership with these organisations, we are designing lesson plans inspired by Muslim Girls Fence sessions, including hadiths related to sports, to be shared across networks. In February 2025, we piloted a programme of training 12 Muslim Girls Fence participants in the course to become both MGF fencing coaches and archery coaches to Doncaster and Birmingham, delivered by MGF coach Nalette from Sunnah Sports in Bradford.

In the women and girls sector, we were invited to give oral evidence to the Women and Equalities Committee on ***Gendered Islamophobia*** in January 2025, aiming to influence policy to better reflect the needs and experiences of Muslim women and highlight how Islamophobia, racism,

sexism, and the Prevent Duty impact the lives of Muslim women and girls, ensuring their experiences are better understood in decision-making.

For International Women's Day 2025, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, London's Deputy Mayor of Communications and Social Justice, visited Sandringham Primary School to meet the girls' fencing programme as a case study for good practice funded by Go London and the Mayor's office. In April 2025, Shahin Ashraf, Mayor of Solihull, visited Ladywood Leisure Centre to meet Binni's Blade fencing club and see its impact on the community, with plans to explore wider rollouts across Birmingham.

Through this work, Muslim Girls Fence is recognised across the sports, education, and health sectors as an example of good practice, influencing culture change nationally and sharing resources to address systemic inequalities faced by Muslim women, girls, and communities. We are shaping how policymakers, mental health professionals, and sector leaders understand the impacts of Islamophobia, racism, Prevent Duty, and sexism on young Muslim women and girls. Rooted in grassroots community practice, our work ensures services are culturally responsive, relevant, and embedded, while supporting sectors to better understand anti-racist approaches for Muslim communities and young people.

Schools With Roots

Our training and workshops have supported hundreds of educators this year. As part of our long-term relationship with the University of East London, we delivered a series of lectures and seminars for trainee teachers on: understanding how racism plays out in schools, tools for building sustainable relationships with parents/carers and the wider community, and how to create cultures of safety through safeguarding practice. Through this partnership, we are working alongside the university to embed anti-racist practice within their curriculum. For the second year running, we delivered a session for PGCE students at the University of Birmingham, on engaging with parents/carers through an anti-racist lens and practical ways to involve them in their child's learning at school.

> ***"The session was very insightful into dynamics I hadn't considered due to my own positionality, and taught me lots about how to implement these ideas into my classroom culture."***
>
> Student from UoB

It was a pleasure to be invited to deliver training for a wide range of organisations and practitioners, sharing our approach to education and resources from our practice. This included The Birmingham Hippodrome and Senior Lectures in Social Work at City University and the University of Kent, in January 2025. In October 2024, we spoke at an online event for teachers, hosted by Project Free and Be Truth to Power, on 'Challenging Islamophobia in the Classroom', and at the start of the academic year in September 2024, partnered with the Centre for Lebanese Studies to deliver 'Learning to Resist;' a national conference on Palestine, attended by around 70 participants from across the country. Topics discussed at the conference were shaped directly by feedback from over 100 educators and parents, gathered through research carried out by a team at the University of Cambridge. Sessions supported teachers to embed anti-racist strategies into their schools, address Islamophobia and antisemitism, and teach in ways that reflect the experiences of their students and wider communities.

As a result of the conversations we've had in these spaces, we have developed a number of resources and toolkits for educators, bringing together the work we've been doing in partnership with schools, families and young people. These include:

Building your anti-racist classroom a response to the racist and Islamophobic violence that erupted across the UK over the summer.

Lesson Prompts and **Creative Making Ideas** around Palestine helping teachers teach global events in ways that connect to the curriculum.

Awareness Days through an Anti-Racist lens, including **Remembrance Day** and **Christmas** how to teach calendar events in locally and culturally relevant ways.

Children's mental health practical ways for practitioners to adopt an anti-racist approach when thinking about and responding to the mental wellbeing of young people.

Ramadhan in Schools practical ways to create welcoming and inclusive spaces in schools during Ramadhan.

> ***"Such an important perspective! True mental wellness means addressing the whole person and the systems that impact them. Every child deserves that level of care."***
>
> Mental Health Therapist

“The Lecture/Seminar was the best session since starting the course. It felt like it had weight and real world implications with really helpful practical strategies.”

Student Feedback from UEL

Criminal Justice

Our work in the criminal legal system has focused on raising awareness of and halting the unequal and discriminatory treatment Muslims receive in the prison system. This work has become even more pressing as the number of Muslim men in prison has doubled in the past 18 years making up 19% of the prison population, while Muslim communities as a whole only make up 6% of the general population.

Our work is responsive to the practical needs of Muslims in prison and their families, while also aiming to inform, influence and change policy and practice of service providers.

We have been working with the voluntary sector for several years, including Samaritans, PACT and Prisoner Education Trust, to understand how racism and discrimination in the prison system affects uptake of their services, and to improve Muslims access to them. The culmination of this work has led to adaptations to service providers' public materials, continued use of our staff training guidance particularly during Ramadan, and the inclusion of suggested adaptations e.g. around confidentiality, into practices. For some organisations it is the first time in their history that they have incorporated faith and translated services into their operations. We have also been asked to share our expertise and experiences directly in staff training days and sector meetings, including in prisons with large Muslim populations.

Capturing public imagination: uncovering the experiences of Muslims in prison

Political rhetoric and media that shape public narratives often offer negative portrayals of both Muslims and those in prison, fuelling Islamophobia and racism. At the same time, the full picture of what happens in prison is often missing – in official reports and through what is shared across the sector. We use a variety of platforms - print, social media, audio visual - to help the wider public better understand the experiences of Muslims and other racialised groups in prison, and help them situate this within wider systemic issues.

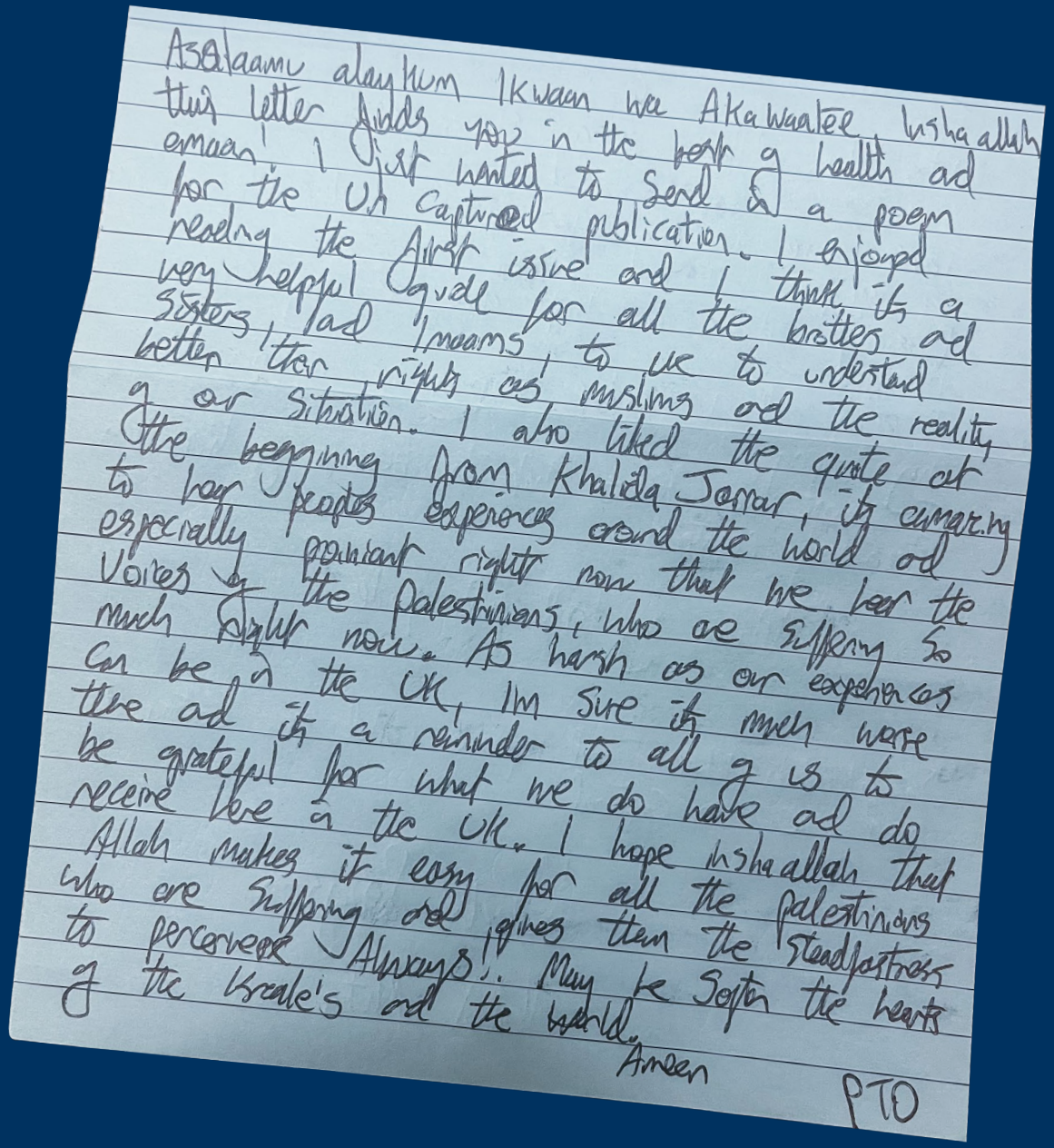
A pamphlet series - UnCaptured - expands the knowledge produced and narratives told about incarcerated Muslims. The publication, launched in April 2024, has been shared widely online and in print to over 700 people, including voluntary service providers, racial justice organisations, probation and prison services, mosques, community groups, and importantly, those who have experienced incarceration directly or indirectly, including those in prison and their families.

The next edition is due to launch in July 2025. It focuses on the theme of families, recognising the ripple effect of imprisonment beyond prison walls and the impact on loved ones. The editorial and publication process involves collecting testimonies from men and women to understand the multiple ways prison affects Muslim families and communities, including navigating a discriminatory system, and the relationships of care and support that are built inside, across and outside prison walls.

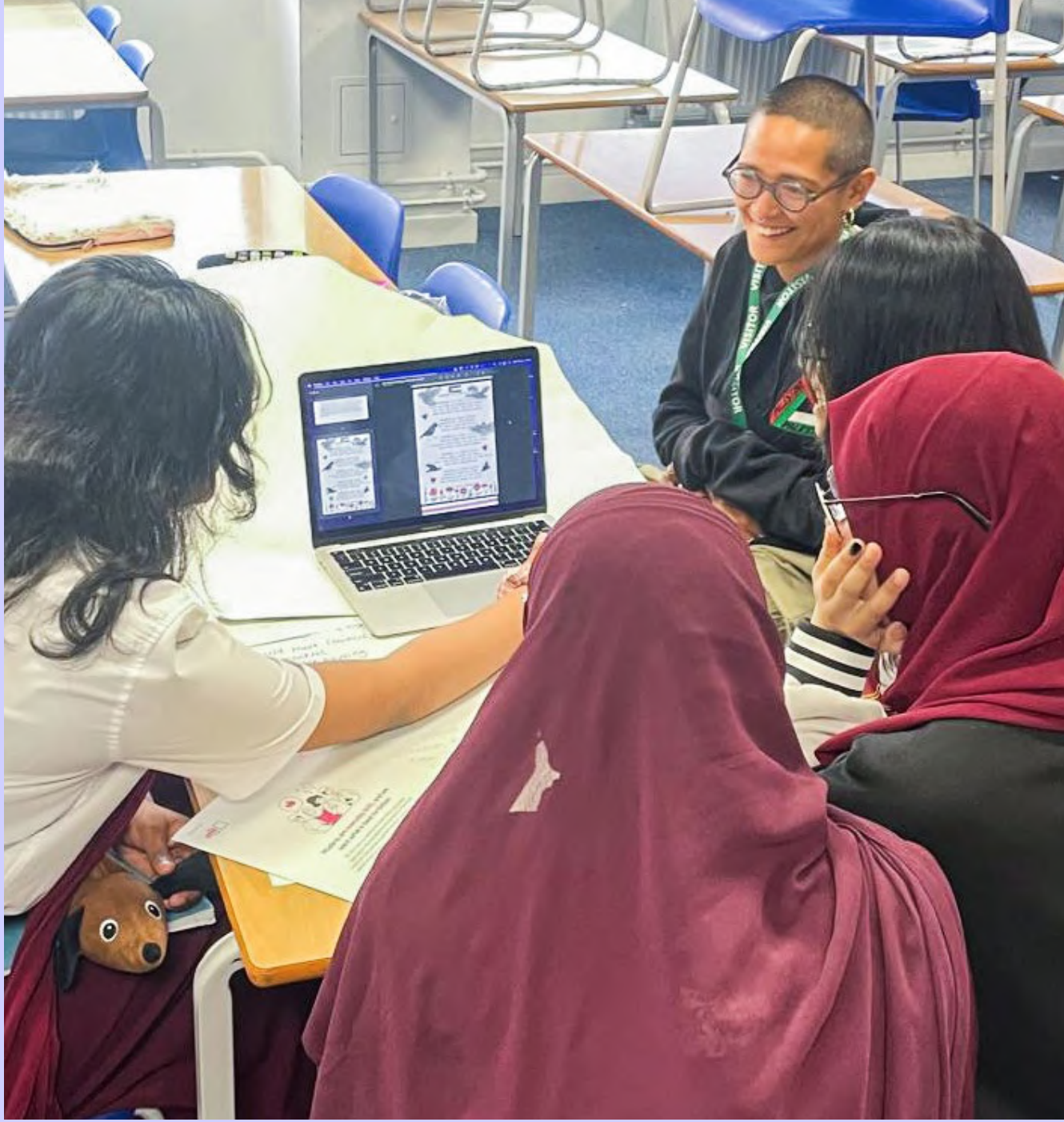
We have been recording a podcast series with ***Surviving Society*** on the prison system and how racialised communities are affected and experience racism. The podcast features interviews with members of the team, people who have experienced prison, academics, and community organisations.

"Asalaamu alaykum ikwaan wa akawaatee Inshaallah this letter finds you in the best of health and emaan. I just wanted to send in a poem for the UnCaptured publication. I enjoyed reading the first issue and I think it's a very helpful guide for all the brothers and sisters, and Imams, to use to understand better their rights as Muslims and the reality of our situation. I also liked the quote at beginning from Khalida Jarrar, it's amazing to hear people's experiences around the world and especially prisoners rights now that we hear the voices of the Palestinians, who are suffering so much right now. As harsh as our experiences can be in the UK, I'm sure it's much worse there and it's a reminder to all of us to be grateful for what we do have and do receive in the UK. I hope Inshaallah that Allah makes it easy for all the Palestinians who are suffering and gives them the steadfastness to persevere always! Mat he soften the hearts of the Israelis and the world. Ameen"

UnCaptured feedback from somebody in prison.



2 Influencing systemic change and replicating local success at a national level



Muslim Girls Fence

Young people as changemakers and capturing public imagination

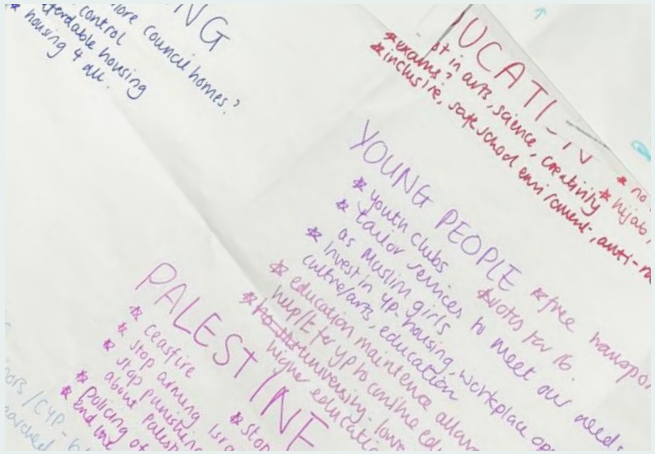
This year, young people who started as participants in Muslim Girls Fence have become facilitators, coaches, creators and campaigners - leading their own sessions, running events, and creating campaigns. We now have four young facilitators from Harrow, Hammersmith, Tower Hamlets and Camden, all paid for their time, whose work is rooted in their voices and experiences. They design and deliver workshops that understand the overlap of gender, ethnicity, religion, sexuality and ability, making space for Muslim girls to speak freely about issues that matter to them in a climate of censorship and Islamophobia. Through the Youth Facilitator programme, they are creating resources, supporting other young people to join our workforce, and turning the local changes they've made in schools and communities into campaigns and projects that capture the public imagination about what it means to be a Muslim girl.

In a school in Tower Hamlets, MGF Youth Facilitator Aisha B (age 17) facilitated sessions for a group of Year 7-8 students. The group scripted, recorded and edited a campaign called Our Stories, Our Resistance, a podcast tackling stereotypes and sharing real experiences of Islamophobia, sexism, and racism. The podcast reflects conversations from MGF sessions, exploring themes such as home, family, bodily autonomy, safe spaces and mental health, and carries these ideas beyond the school setting and reaching wider audiences including youth service providers. As they describe it:

> ***"People stereotype us as silly little girls, terrorists, oppressed, or that we belong in the kitchen. If we don't talk about the issues we face, no one will."***

The same group also contributed to Maslaha's community anti-racist demands during the 2024 general election, taking ideas developed in their local sessions and helping shape a manifesto and campaign materials that reached a national audience. It has been incredible to see when young people are given the tools and freedom to express themselves without fear of punishment, they are able to be changemakers and campaigners beyond their school and community to a wider level fighting for systemic change and capturing public imagination on the needs of Muslim girls.

At Hammersmith Academy, 17-year-old MGF Youth Facilitator Aisha H led a 12-week



programme with Year 9 - 10 students, created a creative photo and textile campaign which they presented to senior leadership team about bodily autonomy, Islamophobia in the school and how the school could change their uniform and policies to be more inclusive and support Muslim students. It was fantastic to see young people being listened to and valued, gaining the confidence to campaign on issues that matter to them, and recognising that they hold the expertise, knowledge, and power to create radical change to liberate our communities.

At Sandringham Primary School, Year 6 girls joined our after school club to explore workers' rights, feminism, racial justice and migrant justice through art and fencing. They created a multilingual banner *"We Want Freedom for All"*, to express what resistance means to them. The girls also spoke to BBC World Service and BBC Newshour about access to sport for Muslim girls and the need for community-led resources.

At Morpeth Academy, the group made a film campaign about slicing up stereotypes to show what it's like to do fencing as a Muslim girl and how to celebrate yourself, your identity and your faith - the film was showcased at the school network Morpeth TV.

"I love fencing matches the most, but what I also really like is all the effort that we really put into it and the people that make it, it's just fun"

Morpeth MGF participant

"We want more girl inclusive clubs because for some reason, people think that boys can do whatever and girls just stay at home, can't do certain things... But doing fencing is a way of embracing yourself as a girl"

Morpeth MGF participant

From our school work we have seen young people in our communities hold vital expertise and knowledge that is valued, listened to as they have the power to create systemic change in both the local and national level.

This strategy to change public imagination and political education from Muslim girls resulted in the Community Care, Not Control campaign led by Youth Facilitators. It explores feminism across education, prisons, borders, and housing, using a series of audio interviews with illustrations featuring different community groups and organisers, to highlight how systemic misogyny is embedded within state institutions. We have interviewed young people from Revoke, No More Exclusions, Bent Bars, Nijjormanoush.

SKIN
NOT
SIN
ALL EYES ON GAZA
POLICE
SCHOOLS
NO POLICE IN SCHOOLS
HANDS OFF MY HIJAB
LET PALEST LIVE
CEASEFIRE NOW
END THE OCCUPATION
NONE OF US ARE FREE, UNTIL ALL OF US ARE FREE

Criminal Justice

There is a lack of racial literacy in the criminal justice sector: data and insights on the specific experiences of Muslims is either absent or shallow in formal reports. Alongside helping practitioners, services and the prison system to better understand and respond to the impact of discrimination and Islamophobia on delivery of services, mental health and wellbeing, we highlight gaps between current equalities regulations and practices in the prison estate, and the failure of 'cultural competency' and 'unconscious bias' trainings within the sector to adequately respond to racial injustice.

Throughout 2024 and 2025 we built up a comprehensive picture of use of force in prisons through a number of Freedom of Information requests, and interviews with Muslims who have been in prison, providing more real-life testimony to statistics. The FOI data pointed to the disproportionate use of specific techniques, such as rigid bar handcuffs, against Muslims, as well as the failure to scrutinise use of force in line with mandatory guidelines – with disproportionality in use of force against Muslims or other racialised groups not being identified within individual prisons. The data casted doubt on the assertions made in some official reports that disparities in the treatment of different groups *are* being monitored and scrutinised, and that there are no obvious patterns in relation to "ethnicity, religion or age". These findings were shared in a briefing (The Hidden Lives of Muslims in Prison). The briefing was shared widely across the sector and was reported by the Guardian (read the article here). The briefing was shared with over 200 people in the sector, and online through audio-visual social media posts.

Through a number of working groups and networks we influence and shape criminal legal policy and practice, including the Alliance for Youth Justice, Safety not Surveillance Coalition, and Ministry of Justice Segregation Advisory Group. This allows us to share our work more widely, inform policy processes and outputs, and make sure the experiences of Muslims and other racialised groups are recognised and drawn on to create meaningful changes. As often the only Muslim organisation in the room, and one of the very few non-white charities, we have a key role in bringing sharper focus on the issue of racial justice to the conversations which often miss race e.g. regarding the introduction of Pava in children's prisons.

Building Community reponses to the harms of prison

Within a system that often views Islam as a risk or something to fear, it is important to highlight the role that Islam and practice of faith plays for many Muslims in prison as a supportive factor. Coming Home, a community response to the harms of prison criminalisation and surveillance, is a counselling service offered by Muslim therapists for Muslims. It recognises faith as a vital and practical tool in supporting those affected by the criminal legal system. Through mostly on-line sessions and some in person sessions, we have had over 50 people accessing the service, with up to 4 counselling sessions being provided each week. It continues to be used by a number of people as part of parole hearings, and we receive referrals from numerous prison-leaver support services across the country. Collective supervision sessions for therapists highlights the need for such a service, allowing reflection on the ways that conventional therapeutic health services are ill-suited to recognising the impacts of systemic racism and discrimination on well-being and mental health, and the possibilities of faith as a supportive factor.

“The talking and understating what is going on in my head, breaking it down for me in terms I can understand. I also found that having that support reassured me that I am not going through this alone. I liked the service as a whole, and would recommend to people coming out, there is nothing I disliked. Thanks for all the support, we need more services like this for ex Muslim prisoners coming out.”

Feedback from somebody who had completed the Coming Home sessions

3 Educating and empowering Muslim and other marginalised communities

Schools With Roots

Family Workshops

Since May 2024, we have been running regular workshops for families in Birmingham, creating spaces where parents/carers and children can bring their full selves and where learning is responsive to their experiences and backgrounds. This project was set up with the support of Ort Gallery, an organisation that works with community members in Balsall Heath who are often overlooked. Workshops are held at The Museum of Islamic Arts & Heritage (MIAH), whose work increases the representation and engagement of people of colour and minority groups of Muslim heritage with the arts. Through the sessions, we bring together families to work collaboratively, exploring the themes of identity, community, and resistance in creative ways. Every session is planned and delivered alongside parents/carers and children, utilising their unique skills and experiences. We have welcomed a total of 30 children and parents/carers to each session and families have shared that they value the sense of community it has nurtured and the space to think creatively about global issues important to them.

"I wanted to say a huge thank you for the workshop during half term. We all really loved it and the children really immersed themselves into the activities. It's given me a lot of inspiration and food for thought! Thank you so much. Looking forward to the next one!"

"These workshops are so meaningful. This morning my children have been telling their family all about what they learnt. They're always excited to find out even more about what we learned about together."

Parent who has attended all the sessions so far.

"We look forward to coming to these sessions as they're always so fun and both children and adults get to learn so much!"

After School Club

We are grateful to be able to continue working in partnership with one of the founding schools of the project, Sandringham Primary School in Newham, London. In May, we set up an after school club for families. This is the first time a club has involved parents/carers with learning and making for children and their adults alongside each other. All spaces were filled up with a total of 30 children and their parents/carers attending the weekly sessions. We designed and delivered the sessions alongside local partners Sustainably Muslim and Ardh. The theme of the workshops was Environment and Sustainability. Families went mini-beast hunting on school grounds, made seed-balls, used clay to make leaf moulds and decorated totebags - all while learning about how communities around the world protect our planet.

"It was such a joyful experience. The feedback from parents and children has been so lovely — they're already asking when you'll be back for more!"

Parent.

Criminal Justice

Practical support to those in prison

Another aspect of our practical support has been through *Jami'an* - a resource which provides guidance to families on how to navigate the prison system, particularly in the first days after a loved one has been imprisoned. *Jami'an* was launched in September 2024 and has been recognised as a needed and useful resource – it is now being shared directly with family members attending court hearings through PACT volunteer court liaisons, it is available through over 50 community organisations and grassroots groups, mosques, Muslim and non-Muslim organisations across the country. The Muslim Chaplaincy in the Ministry of Justice has shared it with all 243 prison Imams for them to share within prisons and through mosques, and commented 'The Imams were absolutely gobsmacked that this excellent booklet actually exists. There is no doubt it will be incredibly useful.'

Based on requests for in person 'clinics' on *Jami'an*, in March 2025 we held a drop-in support session in Leicester for those affected by prison or with a loved one in prison. This is both practical - answering questions and provide advice about prison regimes, guidelines, and mandatory provisions that should be available – but also emotional support as people often feel isolated and lost, and benefit from reassurance.

In solidarity with those in prison

As a community led response, Coming Home is intended to offer holistic therapeutic support to those harmed by the criminal legal system. We piloted a women-led space for women affected by prison. Along with community chaplains we organised and held an Iftaar during Ramadan in March 2025. This offered a space for women with shared experiences to come together and talk about issues they were facing or been through in a supportive, non-judgmental, and warm setting. One participant commented 'it's like being back in prison without having to be in prison, the community that we had there'.

It is important that our resources are useful and relevant to those currently in prison. We know that Islamophobia and discrimination increases during Ramadan, including through the denial of basic rights and access to faith. We are able to re-share the Know your Rights in Ramadan section in the first edition of UnCaptured, to provide people in prison and their families with knowledge about what they should be able to expect from prison and staff during Ramadan and Eid, so they can hold them to account. We shared it directly with over 60 people in prison and a number of prisoner and prisoner family support groups, as well as community organisations, including through social media.

4 Building a well-functioning organisation with financial and organisational sustainability

Media/Appearances

- BBC World Service & BBC News hour - Muslim Girls Fence Sandringham Primary School participants and coach Zohra interviewed about Muslim Girls Fence, breaking down barriers and access to sport for Muslim girls and women (August 2024)
- LBC News – Raheel was interviewed by LBC News and called for the government to address the structural racism that resulted in the racist violence on the streets (August 2024)
- Raheel wrote an opinion piece for LBC News - Recent violence is result of structural racism and Islamophobia: the government must take action (August 2024)
- Gave oral evidence for the Women and Equalities Committee on 'Gendered Islamophobia' (January 2025) - Allia and Raheel
- Surviving Society Podcast - Maslaha partnered with *Surviving Society* on this podcast series to explore Islamophobia and anti-Blackness in the prison system (March 2025) - Raheel, Zahbia and Suleman
- The Guardian – Muslim prisoners in England more likely to be subjected to force, charity finds (April 2025)
- Eastern Eye – Muslim prisoners in England more likely to be subjected to force, charity finds (April 2025)
- The New Arab – UK: Muslim inmates more likely to be faced with excessive violence, Islamophobia in jail, data reveals (April 2025)

Events

- Summer School at Springboard Youth Academy to 80 young people. Springboard Youth Academy offers an innovative space and summer school for newly arrived teenagers from migrant backgrounds (August 2024) - Allia, Fabiolla, coaches Rumisa and Minahil, Muslim Girls Fence
- Muslim Girls Fence Youth Facilitator delivered a workshop on feminism, Prevent duty and activism to 30 young people from Revoke, a grassroots organisation advocating for the rights and welfare of displaced and migrant young people and connect with social justice movements (November 2024) - Aisha H, Allia, Fabiolla, Muslim Girls Fence
- Muslim Girls Fence delivered a lunch and learn on 'Challenging structural Islamophobia in everyday practice' to over 50 mental health professionals with the Children Young People's Mental Health Coalition (November 2024) - Allia, Muslim Girls Fence
- Comic Relief Organisation Induction Day Talk on Muslim Girls Fence, good practice and the impacts of Structural Islamophobia (December 2025) - Allia, Raheel, Muslim Girls Fence
- Muslim Girls Fence core coach training to 12 women and girls to become qualified and trained Muslim Girls Fence coaches who can now deliver fencing in their local community in Tower Hamlets (February 2024) - Allia, Nalette, Helen, Muslim Girls Fence
- Muslims Girls Fence and Archery GB pilot coach training to 12 women to become coaches in fencing and archery in Birmingham (February 2025) - Nalette, Binni, Sunnah Sports and Muslim Girls Fence
- Muslims Girls Fence and Archery GB pilot coach training to 12 women to become coaches in fencing and archery in Doncaster (February 2025) - Nalette, Binni, Sunnah Sports and Muslim Girls Fence
- Introduction to fencing session led by a young person Emlijia to 20 girls and 38 boys from Muslim Scouts Fellowship in Tower Hamlets from the ages 12-14 (February 2025) - Emlijia, Allia, Muslim Girls Fence
- Community iftar in Tower Hamlets with Revoke, Migrant's Rights Network for the local migrant and refugee community to over 70 people (March 2025) - Aisha H, Allia, Muslim Girls Fence
- Community iftar in with Madaniya and London for Sudan- a space for connection, reflection and action for Sudan. We wanted to raise awareness and discuss ways to support Sudan, write to MPs to action, Ramadan intentions, mental health discussions, fundraiser for Sudan Benefit fundraiser to over 100 people (March 2025) - Aisha H, Allia and Muslim Girls Fence
- For International Women's Day in 2025 Debbie Weekes-Bernard London's Deputy Mayor of Communications and Social Justice for visiting and meeting the incredible fencers at Sandringham Primary School, as one of the case studies for good practice for Go London, Mayor of London funding (March 2025) - Sandringham Primary School Muslim Girls Fence

Coming Up

Muslim Girls Fence

Muslim Girls Fence will continue to develop our young people's programme and centring young people's voices and skills in everything we do. The Youth Facilitators hope to plan more events, workshops specifically around Prevent Duty, knowing your rights in schools and create more resources around issues that matter to them such as mental health, Islamophobia, sexism and racism. We hope through this work to showcase new ways of working and influence policymakers, funders and youth, sport, mental health and VAWG sector and organisations to have a multi-dimensional and accurate reflection of the needs and experiences of Muslim women and girls through our youth-led findings, evidence, resources and research. We will be developing our coach development programme across the country to support our coach workforce through bespoke training, resources and development plans as well looking to secure and support with localised funding for local community Muslim Girls Fence groups.

Schools With Roots

We are excited to continue working directly with parents/carers and families in London and Birmingham, embedding the work from this year. We plan to turn the session plans that have been designed and delivered alongside families into a resource that can be used by educators in different spaces, as an example of how teaching can be socially, locally and culturally relevant and responsive to the children and communities they work with.

We look forward to sharing our approach and resources through upcoming workshops, including restarting sessions at the University of East London and training on Islamophobia for staff at the Association of Education Psychologists. We look forward to strengthening existing partnerships and nurturing new ones - in the coming months we will be working with the team at Anti-Racist Cumbria as they develop their programme for young people in the region.

We plan to build a community of teachers, bringing together educators in London and Birmingham, in-person, to further develop the work we have been doing. We plan to use this space to collaboratively work on resources that can then be implemented into practice in the schools that teachers come from. They can then also influence change more widely and challenge the current approach to education, through providing alternatives that are rooted in practice.

Criminal Justice

We will continue to work with partners to improve access to services for Muslims in prison. We will aim to increase religious and racial literacy within these organisations, including an understanding of how Islamophobia and racism affect uptake of their services and the wellbeing of Muslims.

We will continue to build and offer practical interventions to those in prison and their families through services like *Coming Home*, as well as expand the tools we use to do so: one-to-one support; drop-in clinics; peer-to-peer support; development and dissemination of practical guidance such as *Jam'ian*; and education and learning opportunities.

We will be focusing on centring the voices and experiences of those harmed by criminalisation and prisons to build knowledge and evidence of Muslims in prison. This will be used to shape public imagination and community awareness, and mobilise wider community support for affected individuals and families.

We will use evidence to continue to critically analyse and interrogate prison policy and guidelines to better hold prisons to account. We will focus on building coalitions to challenge and shift the increasingly worrying trends in the 'use of force' in prisons, particularly against racialised communities, including the public narratives that underpin them.

Thanks

Maslaha gratefully acknowledges funding in 2024/2025 from:

Barrow Cadbury

Lloyds Foundation

A B Charitable Trust

Network for Social Change

Sport England

Comic Relief

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust

National Lottery

Tudor Trust

Esmee Fairbairn

Pears Foundation

Financial Summary

Financial Review

During the year 2025 Maslaha made a net loss of £21,077 (2023: net loss of £29,817) resulting in net assets of £692,901 (2023: £713,978). The organisation has a number of multi-year grants with principal sources of funding from a variety of charitable foundations, as well as donations and consultancy work. All expenditure for the year is directly related to fulfilling the aims and objectives of the funder's requirements.

Reserves Policy

In the Trustees' view, the reserves should provide the charity with adequate financial stability through maintaining sufficient reserves in liquid form to meet short term obligations. As Maslaha develops its own internal infrastructure, the reserve level will be reviewed to ensure sufficient to support the organisation to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future. The trustees propose to maintain the charity's reserves at a level which is at least equivalent to three months overhead expenditure. This level has been set giving due regard to its manner of operation & likely funding streams. At present, this is taken as £126k.

The Trustees acknowledge that as a small & growing organisation Maslaha may need to utilise reserves to support cash flow; this is permitted in the following circumstances:

To support cash flow during a timing discrepancy within a project which is demonstrably on budget overall

To cover unexpected or unforeseen costs that need to be borne by the organisation.

If either of the above are triggered and would be deemed to de-stabilise the organisation, a case is to be put to trustees for consideration and authorisation prior to spend.

The Trustees regularly review the amount of reserves that are required to ensure that they are adequate to fulfil the charity's continuing obligations.

Please note, surpluses are retained as reserves for the future operating activities of the charity.

Legal and Admin

The objects of the Charity are:

1. To advance the education of the public in the subject of the Islamic faith and its practice and to there- by promote a greater awareness and understanding of Islam and its daily practice amongst Muslims and non-Muslims alike;

2. To promote equality and diversity for the public benefit in particular but not exclusively by:

(a) Raising public sector awareness and understanding of Islam and the need for services that are appropriately tailored for and sensitive to the practices of Muslim communities; and

(b) Promoting and informing dialogue, debate and greater understanding between Muslims and non-Muslims on issues of cohesion and integration. In practice this is achieved through our approach.

Our team

Raheel Mohammed – Director
Zahbia Yousuf – Senior Project Manger
Saara Quested – Senior Project Manager
Allia Fredericks – Senior Project Manager
Suleman Amad – Project Manager
Nirad Abrol – Project Manager
Fabiolla Lorusso – Communications and Project Manager

Our trustees

Alia Alzougbi
Jane Earl
Jodie Beck
Sameer Rahim
Shereen Fernandez

Thank you to all the staff who have contributed their hard work and expertise to our work and have moved on, and excited to be working with new colleagues.

Our address

Maslaha

Oxford House
Derbyshire Street
London E2 6HG

Bank details

HSBC Bank PLC

465 Bethnal Green Road,
Bethnal Green, London E2 9QW

Independent examiner

Anthony Epton BA FCA CTA

Goldwins Chartered accountants
75 Maygrove Road, West Hampstead,
London NW6 2EG

Report of the trustees

The Trustees are required by law to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which show a true and fair view of the financial activities of the company and of its financial position at the end of that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

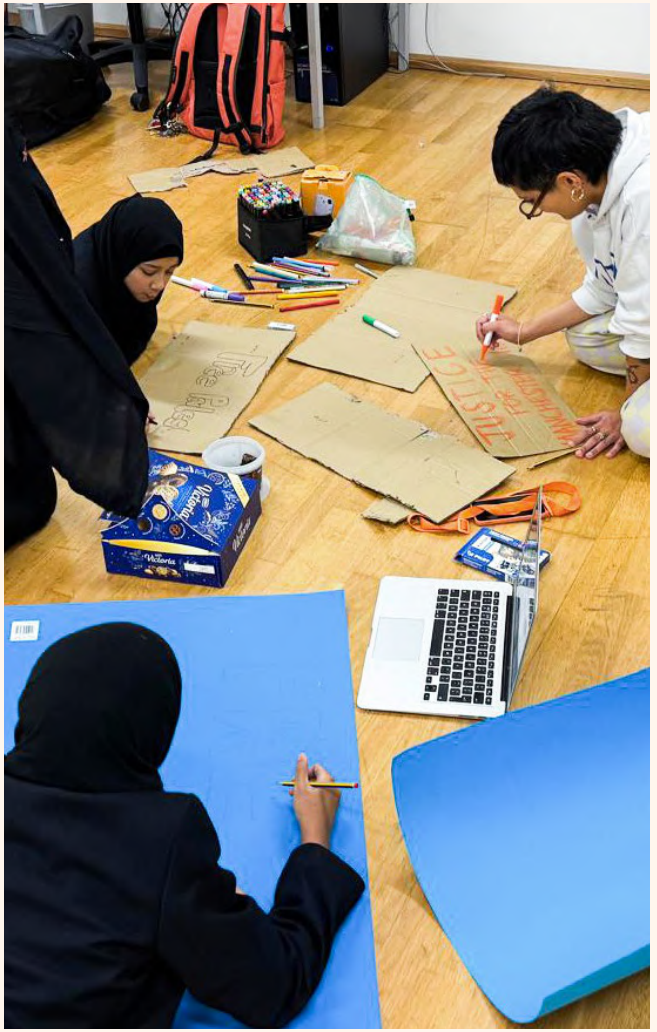
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and with applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on an ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accountancy records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the company and to 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.

The principle objects of the charity during the year are stated in the Legal & Admin section of this report. The trustees are aware of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit reporting as set out in Section 17 Charities Act 2011. The Trustees believe that the charity achieves a public benefit as detailed elsewhere in this report.

Approved by and signed on behalf of the trustees, on 4 December 2025:

Alia Alzougbi



Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Maslaha for the 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.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Anthony Epton

Anthony Epton BA FCA CTA

Goldwins Chartered accountants
75 Maygrove Road, West Hampstead,
London NW6 2EG

4 December 2025

Accounts

Maslaha
Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	**573**	**-**	**573**	75
Charitable activities	4	**125,635**	**267,012**	**392,647**	428,058
Other trading activities	5	**5,100**	**1,000**	**6,100**	1,550
Total income		**131,308**	**268,012**	**399,320**	429,683
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	**85,574**	**334,823**	**420,397**	459,500
Total expenditure		**85,574**	**334,823**	**420,397**	459,500
Net income for the year	7	**45,734**	**(66,811)**	**(21,077)**	(29,817)
Transfers between funds		**-**	**-**	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**45,734**	**(66,811)**	**(21,077)**	(29,817)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		**493,547**	**220,431**	**713,978**	743,795
Total funds carried forward		**539,281**	**153,620**	**692,901**	713,978

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 16 to the financial statements.

Maslaha

Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Current assets:					
Debtors	**12**	**29,000**		50,000	
Cash at bank and in hand		**676,118**		673,070	
		705,118		723,070	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**13**	**12,217**		9,092	
Net current assets			**692,901**		713,978
Total net assets	**14**		**692,901**		713,978
Funds	**15**				
Restricted funds			**153,620**		220,431
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds		**539,281**		493,547	
Total unrestricted funds			**539,281**		493,547
Total funds			**692,901**		713,978

For the year ending 31 March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.The directors acknowledge their responsibility for.complying with the requirements of the Act withrespect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companiessubject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the trustees on 4 December 2025.
and signed on their behalf by:

Alia Alzougbi

Trustee

Company registration no. 7309979

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

Maslaha
Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	a	**3,048**	(26,195)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Sale/ (purchase) of fixed assets		-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		**3,048**	(26,195)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		**673,070**	699,265
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	b	**676,118**	673,070

a) **Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from**

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	**(21,077)**	(29,817)
Decrease / (Increase) in debtors	**21,000**	5,000
Increase / (Deccrease) in creditors	**3,125**	(1,378)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	**3,048**	(26,195)

b) **Analysis of cash and cash equivalents**

	At 1 April 2024 £	Cash flows £	Other changes £	At 31 March 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	**673,070**	**3,048**	**-**	**676,118**
Total cash and cash equivalents	**673,070**	**3,048**	**-**	**676,118**

Maslaha
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

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 - effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

b) Reconciliation with previously Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP)

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was required.

c) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

d) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. Income received in advance for the provision of specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is a treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

e) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

f) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

g) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted 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 Accounting policies (continued)

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise of trading costs and the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 6.

j) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Computer equipment	on 3 years straight line basis

k) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

l) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

m) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024 Total Funds
	£	£	£
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	75	-	75
Charitable activities	201,400	226,658	428,058
Other income	1,050	500	1,550
Total income	202,525	227,158	429,683
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities:	90,967	368,533	459,500
Total expenditure	90,967	368,533	459,500
Net income before gains / (losses) on investments	111,558	(141,375)	(29,817)
Net gains / (losses) on investments	-	-	-
Net income	111,558	(141,375)	(29,817)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-
Net income before other recognised gains and losses	111,558	(141,375)	(29,817)
Net movement in funds	111,558	(141,375)	(29,817)
Total funds brought forward	381,989	361,806	743,795
	493,547	220,431	713,978

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Restricted Funds**	**2025 Total Funds**	2024 Total Funds
	£	**£**	**£**	£
Donations	**573**	**-**	**573**	75
	573	**-**	**573**	75

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Income earned from charitable activities				
Grants				
Pears Foundation	**50,000**	**-**	**50,000**	50,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust	**-**	**53,250**	**53,250**	10,750
Comic Relief	**-**	**35,000**	**35,000**	-
Sports England	**-**		**-**	27,616
Esmee Fairbairn	**5,000**		**5,000**	50,000
Tudor Trust	**50,000**		**50,000**	50,000
King's College	**-**		**-**	2,400
Joseph Rowntree	**16,635**		**16,635**	20,000
National Lottery			**-**	49,991
National Lottery - SWR		**100,012**	**100,012**	100,012
AB Charitable Trust	**4,000**		**4,000**	29,000
The Bromley Trust		**10,000**	**10,000**	10,000
Network For Social NSCCT		**50,000**	**50,000**	8,016
Go London		**18,750**	**18,750**	20,273
Total income from charitable activities	**125,635**	**267,012**	**392,647**	428,058

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Consultancy fees	**5,100**	**1,000**	**6,100**	1,550
	5,100	**1,000**	**6,100**	1,550

6 Analysis of expenditure

	Charitable activities	2025 Total	2024 Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	**306,289**	**306,289**	325,516
Direct cost			
Project costs	**56,435**	**56,435**	102,861
Publicity & Reports	**7,245**	**7,245**	-
Support cost			
Office costs	**37,001**	**37,001**	18,766
Governance cost			
Bank charges	**126**	**126**	132
Examiner's fees	**1,488**	**1,488**	1,200
Accountancy fees	**11,813**	**11,813**	11,025
Total expenditure 2025	**420,397**	**420,397**	459,500
Total expenditures 2024	459,500	459,500	

Of the total expenditure, £85,574 was unrestricted (2024: £90,967) and £334,823 was restricted (2024: £368,533).

Analysis of expenditure-prior year

	Charitable activities	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	325,516	325,516	268,864
Direct cost			
Project costs	102,861	102,861	45,190
Publicity & Reports	-	-	300
Support cost			
Office costs	18,766	18,766	19,644
Governance cost			
Bank charges	132	132	130
Examiner's fees	1,200	1,200	1,100
Accountancy fees	11,025	11,025	4,925
Total expenditure 2024	459,500	459,500	340,153
Total expenditures 2023	340,153	340,153	

7 Net incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging / crediting:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Independent Examiner's fees net of VAT	**1,000**	1,000

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries and wages	**273,643**	283,846
Social security costs	**20,486**	22,802
Staff pension costs	**12,160**	13,806
Other staff costs	**-**	5,062
	306,289	325,516

The total employee benefits including pension contributions of the key management personnel were £92,589 (2024: £86,623).

The following number of employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension) during the year between:

	2025	2024
£80,001 -£89,000	**1**	-
£70,000 -£79,000	**-**	1

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2024: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2024: £nil).

No trustees received any payment or reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs.

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
Charitable activity	**3.0**	3.0
Support	**1.5**	1.5
Governance	**0.5**	0.5
	5.0	5.0

10 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

11 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accured income	**29,000**	50,000
	29,000	50,000

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Taxation & social security	**7,013**	6,892
Pension liabilities	**1,204**	-
Accruals	**4,000**	2,200
	12,217	9,092

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General Unrestricted funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Net current assets	**539,281**	**-**	**153,620**	**692,901**
Net assets at the end of the year	**539,281**	**-**	**153,620**	**692,901**

Analysis of net assets between funds-prior year

	General Unrestricted funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Net current assets	493,547	-	220,431	713,978
Net assets at the end of the year	493,547	-	220,431	713,978

15 Movements in funds

	At the start of the year	Incoming resources & gains	Outgoing resources & losses	Transfers	At the end of the year
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:					
Barrow Cadbury	**-**	**53,250**	**(53,250)**	**-**	**-**
National Lottery - SWR	**59,424**	**100,012**	**(68,609)**	**-**	**90,827**
National Lottery	**36,053**	**-**	**(36,053)**	**-**	**-**
Comic Relief	**-**	**36,000**	**(28,304)**	**-**	**7,696**
Lloyds Foundation	**100,547**	**-**	**(100,547)**	**-**	**-**
The Bromley Trust	**-**	**10,000**	**(100)**	**-**	**9,900**
Go London	**16,391**	**18,750**	**(35,141)**	**-**	**-**
Network For Social NSCCT	**8,016**	**50,000**	**(12,819)**	**-**	**45,197**
Total restricted funds	**220,431**	**268,012**	**(334,823)**	**-**	**153,620**
General funds					
Total Unrestricted Funds	**493,547**	**131,308**	**(85,574)**	**-**	**539,281**
Total unrestricted funds	**493,547**	**131,308**	**(85,574)**	**-**	**539,281**
Total funds including pension fund	**713,978**	**399,320**	**(420,397)**	**-**	**692,901**

Maslaha
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

Movements in funds-prior year	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Barrow Cadbury	-	10,750	(10,750)	-	-
National Lottery - SWR	53,727	100,012	(94,315)	-	59,424
National Lottery	70,748	49,991	(84,686)	-	36,053
Sports England	41,076	27,616	(68,692)	-	-
Lloyds Foundation	165,575	500	(65,528)	-	100,547
Baring Foundation	30,680	-	(30,680)	-	-
The Bromley Trust	-	**10,000**	**(10,000)**	-	-
Go London	-	**20,273**	**(3,882)**	-	**16,391**
Network For Social NSCCT	-	**8,016**	-	-	**8,016**
Total restricted funds	361,806	227,158	(368,533)	-	220,431
General funds					
Total Unrestricted Funds	381,989	202,525	(90,967)	-	493,547
Total unrestricted funds	381,989	202,525	(90,967)	-	493,547
Total funds including pension fund	743,795	429,683	(459,500)	-	713,978

Barrow Cadbury
The purpose of this grant is to improving vital services for Muslims in the prison system and highlighting systemic racism.

Porticus Foundation
Developing Maslaha methodologies and tools to challenge educational inequality in UK primary schools.

Baring Foundation
Using legal tools to highlight the discrimination faced by Muslims in prison.

Sports England
This is a continuation of Muslim girl Fence in the context of inactivity and economic disadvantage.

Lloyds Foundation
Improving vital services for Muslims in the prison system and highlighting systemic racism.

National Lottery- continuation of the Muslim Girls Fence project and National Lottery
Connecting communities to schools

16 Operating lease commitments

At the balance sheet date, the charity had no financial commmitment under non-cancellable operating leases.

17. Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for the year (2024: none).

Barrow Cadbury
Improving services for Muslim men in prison and highlighting their experience of systemic racism

National Lottery
Continuation of Muslim Girls Fence and improving relationship between communities and schools

Comic Relief
Towards Muslim Girls Fence programme

Lloyds Foundation
Improving services for Muslim men in prison and highlighting their experience of systemic racism

Go London
Supporting Muslim Girls Fence programme

Network for Social Change
Supporting families and schools in dealing with the censorship about Palestine in schools

Maslaha was incorporated as a limited liability company (7309979) on July 9th 2010 and was registered as a charity in England and Wales (1139560) on December 29th 2010.

maslaha

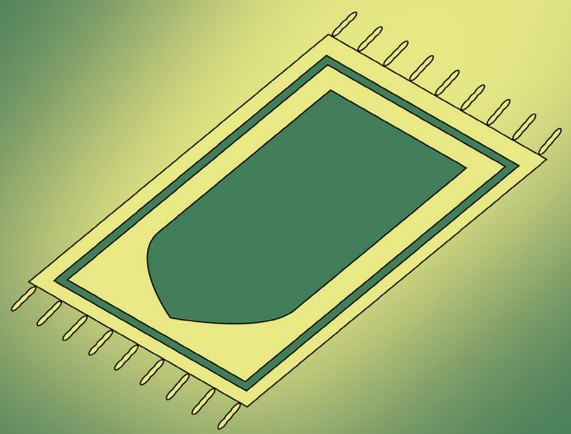
Annual Report 2024-2025

MASLAHA

England & Wales - Charity number 1139560

Accounts

maslaha



ANNUAL REPORT 2023—2024

The reporting period for the annual report is April 2023-April 2024.

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Communities find ways to improve their lives and not be intimidated by the challenge and struggle that lie ahead.

Foreword

It has been a year when Muslim communities have felt censored and afraid to speak freely. The policing of the Muslim voice and Muslim thought is not new but this year has seen a more open form of Islamophobia denying our communities the fundamental right to have a voice and think freely.

And yet despite this context you will read in our report how communities find ways to improve their lives and not be intimidated by the challenge and struggle that lie ahead.

This includes our latest Muslim Girls Fence cohort who persuaded their school to change a uniform policy to be more sensitive to the needs of Muslim pupils playing sport. The Hands off our Hijab is a great example of young people gaining confidence through the project to challenge and importantly develop methods in how to make tangible change.

The voices of parents and carers often remain unheard but the Schools with Roots team have not only been working with families in London, Birmingham, and Coventry in making use of the wider public spaces such as galleries to create learning spaces. These practical interventions are then used in developing training for trainee teachers with our university partners in east London and Liverpool.

The experience of Muslims in the prison system still remains largely unknown, despite now making up 18% of the prison population. In response we produced a new publication called UnCaptured, which focuses on first person testimonies and provides a more nuanced analysis compared to standard reports. We have also received wide coverage based on Freedom of Information, requests, which shows the disproportionate use of PAVA spray (pepper spray) on Muslims and Black prisoners.

We also launched a new counselling service for those harmed by the prison system, one that understands and religion and culture as a positive tool rather than one of suspicion.

The coming year will see Schools with Roots sharing continuing to work directly with parents/carers in London and Birmingham, building on the relationships we have made this year. Alongside parents/carers we will co-design and facilitate sessions exploring the themes of identity. This community space will bring together families to learn together and from each other in creative ways.

Muslim Girls Fence will be focusing on developing our young people's programme and centring young people's voices and skills in everything we do. We hope to create more youth-led resources on mental health, Islamophobia, sports, sexism and racism.

In our criminal justice work we are developing a new resource, to be launched in Autumn 2024, which provides basic information to families about how to navigate the prison system – such as how to find out where their loved one is, how to contact them and arrange visits, and send money and parcels. The aim of the resource is to help remove some of the fear and sense of isolation that comes with trying to make sense of the prison system and communicating with them.

Why Maslaha?

The past few years have seen a heightened focus on Muslim communities and Islam across the UK and abroad. The combination of terrorist attacks, war, political decisions, and social deprivation have all shaped with an intense pace how Muslims are seen and thought of in the public imagination. It has been out of this difficult period that Maslaha began as an idea to eventually become an independent organisation.

Maslaha translates from the Arabic as 'for the common good' and this is the driving force behind all our work.

In all of our work we aim to challenge inequalities and racism facing Muslim and other marginalised communities, whether this is in the accessibility of health services, in curriculum and teaching practice in schools, or in the way that the criminal justice system operates.

We want communities to have influence in the systems that affect them, for systemic barriers to access, opportunity and representation to be sustainably challenged, and for people from marginalised communities to have improved wellbeing and greater hope and aspiration.
We believe that this requires a combination of the practical, grassroots work we have been doing over the past 10 years and a wider systemic analysis and intervention that allows us to influence those with power.

The power structures we influence include civil servants, ministers, teachers, foundations, senior staff in public services such as the NHS, Sports Bodies such as Sport England, the prison system, and arts institutions. By working collaboratively with those in positions of power as well as local families and communities we embed checks and balances and flows of information from the ground up into policy-making decisions and the designing of services.

Our health work, for example, recognizes that Muslim communities experience disproportionately high health inequalities around conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, pregnancy and depression. A contributing factor to this is that both health services and communities are not equipped to appropriately tackle the root causes of these issues and engage with the complex realities of all patients' lives

The way we approach this in our health interventions is to create resources for both patients and practitioners that combine faith advice and cultural references with medical advice. We then embed these resources in the everyday spaces of communities, as well as nationally. By doing this we have reached over 19,500 patients and health professionals and our resources are endorsed by NHS trusts across the country, the Royal College of GPs (RCGP) and medical curricula in universities.

One of Maslaha's strengths is bringing together a diverse mix of people within and between each project: supporters and partners include the young and the elderly, nurses and teachers, artists and academics, imams and historians, policy makers and school pupils, and those who do have a faith and those who do not. Our projects straddle a number of sectors and this unusual mix of people has led to new networks of collaboration and new perspectives on how social issues can be tackled.

Our strategy

Maslaha's working strategy puts communities at the centre of making change happen.
Our vision – that Muslim communities are empowered to overcome social inequalities – can only be truly achieved through working closely with communities, and by recognising their role as active proponents of that change. Our strategy will guide our effort over the coming years and enable us to effectively work towards our objectives of reducing levels of deprivation amongst Muslim communities and challenging stereotypes.

Maslaha has produced award-winning and ground-breaking resources, driven by an ability to engage with communities, service providers, and decision-makers alike, to reach across perceived institutional divides, and to empower and enable motivated individuals and organisations to pursue good ideas based on a lived understanding of particular needs.

This approach informs all of our work, and is key to Maslaha's ability to implement our strategy effectively.

Our Areas of Work

HEALTH: Muslim communities frequently have trouble accessing health services. A lack of shared language between patients, communities and health practitioners contributes to challenges in accessing support, and that support being relevant and appropriate.

EDUCATION: There are high levels of underachievement and disengagement among young Muslims, which are linked to a lack of appropriate support and culturally relevant curriculums and impacted by negative stereotypes and misconceptions that surround Islam and Muslim communities, and their relationship with wider society.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE: The number of Muslims in prison has more than doubled over the past 15 years and their experience, treatment and outcomes in prison are consistently more negative compared to non-Muslims. Negative stereotyping has been shown to act as a barrier to opportunity and engagement with services for Muslims in prison.

GENDER: Muslim women and girls face complex discrimination that arises from the intersections of their faith, race, gender and other identities. This in turn creates complex challenges and barriers for them across society including in areas such as employment and education. For example, Muslim women are 70% more likely to be unemployed than white Christian women.

Our Strategic Goals

1. Educating public service providers and wider society to better understand Muslim and other marginalised communities.
2. Influencing systemic change and replicating local success at a national level.
3. Educating and empowering Muslim communities.
4. Building a well-functioning organisation with financial and organisational sustainability.

We carry out our strategic objectives by working across three defined areas: practice, policy and public imagination. Each social issue will require a different mix of these, but by working across all of them we ensure our work can achieve real and lasting impact.

Practice – working practically with communities at a grassroots local level.

Policy – changing practice at a local level can only be sustained by sharing our learning at a strategic level and ensuring that this informs future policy decisions.

Public imagination – Influencing, and where possible shaping, public debates and media narratives. We combine creativity with everyday action and engagement to find new ways to connect and communicate.

Case Studies

1. Educating public service providers and wider society to better understand Muslim and other marginalised communities

Muslim Girls Fence

YOUNG CHANGEMAKERS

We have found through our work, and research also shows, that Muslim girls/women have some of the lowest levels of physical activity. This is not because of a lack of individual commitment but rather due to lack of free activities, venues being less accessible, negative experiences in sports and leisure spaces eg, people being Islamophobic, childcare needs, and cuts in local areas which has limited the availability of projects and services. All of this is also having an adverse effect on the mental health of Muslim girls/women.

We listen to the needs of Muslim women and girls and design and deliver our project alongside our community. Improving health and wellbeing and better connecting participants with friends and community, tackling social isolation and empowering participants to be in control of their health, as well as narratives about their community. We do this by making sure everything is led by Muslim women and girls, they lead sessions, design the tools and programme, create new skills and knowledge or change mindsets within the systems and structures. By focusing on the leadership of the young people we work with, we support them to be able to challenge the inequalities that they face.

"I do think Islamophobia has affected young people's mental health. I think that this is something that is rising sadly, we don't feel safe, or listened to or understood, which kind of makes it worse. That's why it's so nice having this club, we can just be ourselves, say what we want to say without fear of repercussion and have fun with our friends."

MGF participant

We take a youth-led approach in developing young changemakers in schools. We provide a platform for girls to tell their own stories, on their own terms, and challenge mainstream narratives about Muslim women and girls, to make schools a safer space for Muslim girls to be able to show their full authentic selves. This is demonstrated by the students in Tower Hamlets creating a photo campaign called 'Hands off our Hijab'. The campaign explored their bodily autonomy. At the time of the campaign they were not allowed to wear their hijabs in PE and dance classes, so they campaigned for the freedom to wear hijab in these classes, and for sport hijabs/comfortable hijabs to be part of their school uniform for PE and dance. They created a photography project, designed their own campaign zine and designed their own hijabs. They collected over 100 signatures from students, parents and teachers and presented their campaign to the senior leadership team. As a result, in September

2023, the school introduced a black sports hijab similar to what they designed, as part of the school uniform. This demonstrates the power and potential of youth voice in making change.

Muslim Girls Fence is a vital space for Muslim women and girls to voice their feelings, share their experiences and define themselves beyond mainstream assumptions and narratives about them, as well as make real change in their community.

We have also heard from MGF participants that schools are not creating enough spaces to talk about Palestine or actively censoring discussions. This has a negative impact on their mental health and creates a further barrier between school and young people. MGF sessions therefore become a valuable space for young people to express themselves without fear of censorship and within their rights to freedom of speech.

We have also had positive feedback from teachers:

"It's a really powerful thing and for the school community and the culture within the school as well... you can definitely see the girls practising using their voices in the classroom more, willing to be the voice that's different or has a challenging perspective to what everyone else is saying, which is really refreshing. I think one of the strengths of this programme is how it is, in terms of school subjects, it's a cross-curricular programme where within the same two hours they're looking at poetry and language and sharing ideas about society and their opinions and beliefs but at the same time they're being quite physical, using their bodies as well their minds...and I think there is where we can see the girls building their identity and understanding of themselves..."

Teacher at MGF school

Freedom is like a Bird

Freedom is like a bird,
With an urge to spread its wings,
To fly, up high, into the sky,
And see what the future brings

Freedom is like a bird,
Beautiful, with grace,
Of every size and colour
Every shade and shape

Freedom is like a bird,
Easily caged and caught,
Villains claim that it can be owned,
And simply sold and bought

Freedom is like a bird,
With every right to soar,
To sing, and chirp, and cry to the world
And flap forevermore

Freedom is like a bird,
Roaming round by light,
Spreading joy in the noon,
And singing sweet by night.

"An insightful and engaging session! The topics are essential and relevant to discuss but are typically avoided. Really thought-provoking."

PGCE Student at University of Birmingham

Schools with Roots

TEACHER TRAINING

As a result of last year's positive response and need, we have significantly expanded our training programme. This year, we have supported hundreds of trainees, class teachers and senior leaders and educators across the country.

At the University of East London, where we have worked over a number of years, we developed a series of three sessions for Primary School trainee teachers. This started with exploring how racism plays out in society and within schools, then understanding tools for building sustainable relationships with parents/carers and the wider community, and finally reflecting on safeguarding practice and how to create cultures of safety for all young people. This allowed us to embed anti-racist practice within the curriculum. Alongside this, we designed and delivered training on the intersection between Special Education Needs and racism for Apprentice Teachers in Alternative Provision settings. We were thrilled to have been invited to run a training day for the Teaching Staff as part of their strategy for further developing anti-racist practice across the Primary Teaching Department.

"It has been wonderful working with you and your contribution to the development of our trainees has been invaluable."

Course Lead for Primary PGCE at UEL

We also delivered sessions for trainee teachers at the University of Birmingham and Liverpool John Moores University. The focus of these sessions included 'Building an anti-racist Classroom' and 'Anti-racist parent/carer engagement'.

Alongside this, it was a pleasure to be invited to deliver training for other education organisations, including for Programme Facilitators at Beyond Equality, education psychologists at the 'Inclusion Matters' conference in Manchester, and the staff team at The Linking Network in Bradford. We look forward to building on our partnerships with universities and other educational organisations.

"Much needed for a predominately White course. Very inspiring, up to date, informed and challenging."

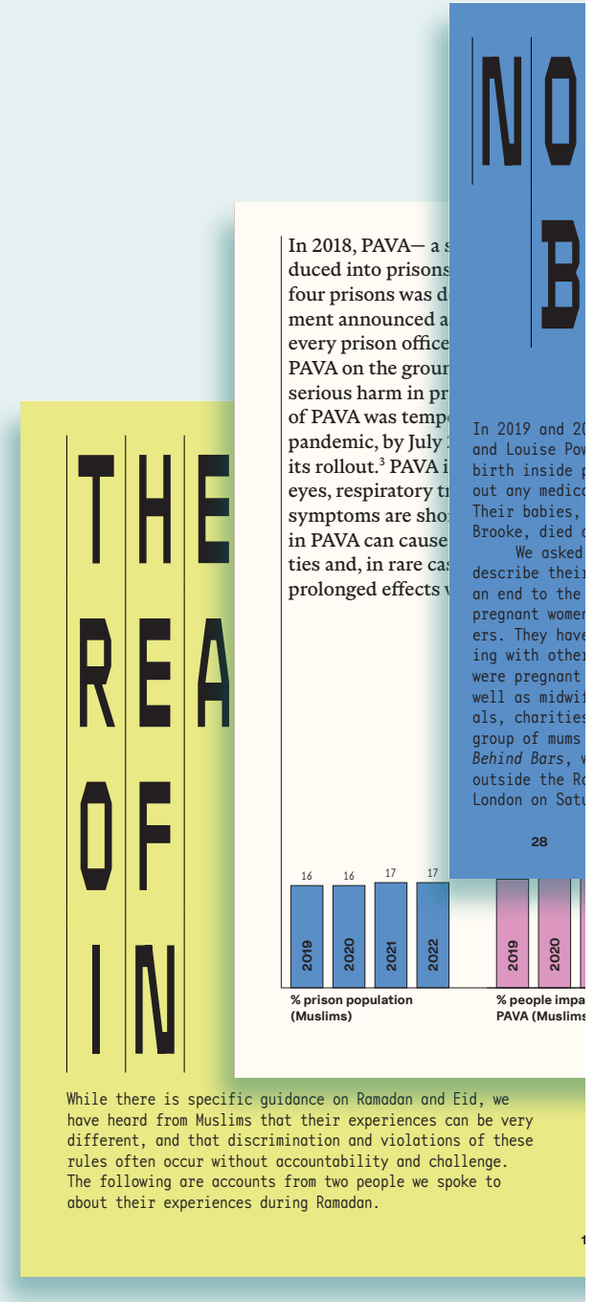
Trainee Secondary School Teacher, Liverpool John Moores University

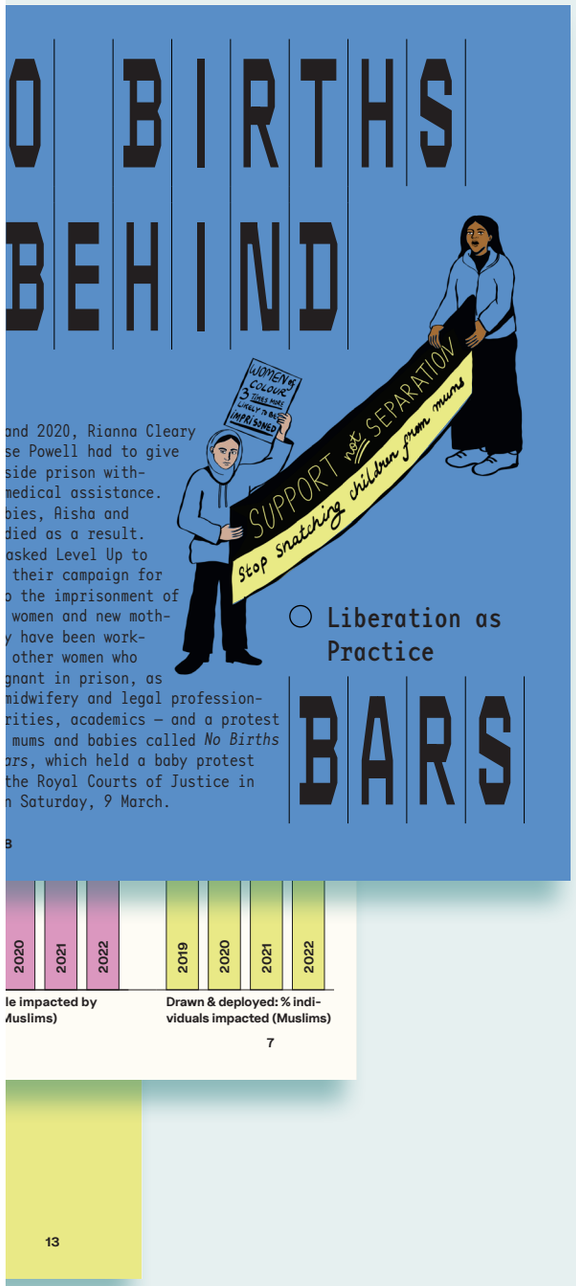
Criminal Justice

INFORMING VOLUNTARY SECTOR SERVICES

We have been working with the voluntary sector for several years, including Samaritans, PACT and Prisoner Education Trust, to understand how racism and discrimination in the prison system affects uptake of their services, and to improve Muslims access to them. Services range from wellbeing and emotional support, to support with release, and relationships with families. This year we worked closely with specific organisations to practically improve accessibility – from the way materials are designed, to how resource content is presented, and the training staff receive. For some organisations it was the first time in their history that they incorporated faith and translated services into their operations.

The work included being in discussion with incarcerated Muslim men and women about how they access and use services, and the barriers they face to doing so. For Muslims that already feel under surveillance in prison, confidentiality was crucial but also most likely to be hardest to achieve. We initiated a co-creation process with people accessing the services, collating suggested adaptations to existing resources, and testing them with other groups.





CAPTURING PUBLIC IMAGINATION: UNCOVERING THE EXPERIENCES OF MUSLIMS IN PRISON

Documenting and disseminating evidence based on real life stories has been a core part of Maslaha's work. There is a lack of racial literacy in the criminal justice sector, which means that data and insights on the specific experiences of Muslims is either absent or shallow in formal reports. Such a lack of data contributes to the systemic racism we often highlight, as problems are not made visible or transparent.

In response, we produced a new pamphlet series called *UnCaptured* to expand the knowledge produced and narratives told about incarcerated Muslims, and understand the granularity of religious identity for Muslims in prison. This is partly to better hold prisons to account for failing to fully deliver services to and ensure less harmful outcomes for Muslim people, and help practitioners, services and the prison system better understand and respond to the impact of discrimination and Islamophobia on delivery of services, mental health and wellbeing. We also highlight gaps in current equalities regulations and practices that are being rolled out across the prison estate. Importantly, the pamphlet brings together and highlights the work of Black and brown-led organisations, practitioners, and scholars, whose work or voices are not always given sufficient prominence in the sector.

The publication, launched in April 2023, has been shared widely online and in print to over 250 people, including voluntary service providers, racial justice organisations, other probation and prison services, mosques, community groups, and importantly, those who have experienced incarceration directly or indirectly e.g. families.

2. Influencing systemic change and replicating local success at a national level

Muslim Girls Fence

PUBLIC IMAGINATION, POLICY, PRESS AND CAMPAIGNS

In January, a portrait of Tasmia Haq, a MGF Birmingham fencer was among the winning photographs of 2023 Portrait of Britain from across the West Midlands that 'celebrates the faces of modern Britain' and 'captures the tapestry of life'. Her beautiful photograph is currently on display on digital advertising screens located in high streets, shopping centres and transport hubs across the country: bbc.co.uk/news/articles/czv52g1w1x7o It is incredible to see fencers from the Birmingham sessions being platformed on a national level and changing the narrative of Muslim women.

In November we delivered a MGF celebration and fencing competition in Birmingham to 52 MGF fencers and coaches from across Birmingham, Doncaster, Bradford and London. It was an opportunity to provide training to upskill fencers in coaching skills and fencing skills. A chance to socialise and build community. As well as the first time hosting a MGF fencing competition with prizes. At the same time we carried out a photography project with Sarah Ali, a local photographer who has previously worked with the MGF exhibition.

Alongside this competition, two clubs – Binni's Bladez in Birmingham and Sunnah Sports in Bradford – have become registered and recognised fencing clubs. This is part of our ongoing work to influence and change practice in the sport sector in relation to Muslim women.

"Going to these sessions means a lot to me because it's a bonding moment with my daughter. I wanna be a role model to my daughter, to show her that women can be strong and independent and that they can achieve whatever they want."

Amreena, fencer from Birmingham

Platforms 1a to 5a via Blue zone
Platforms 6a to 12a via Green zone
Platforms 1b to 12b and 4c via Red zone
Platforms 6a to 12a via Green zone
Customer information
Toilets Available in all zones
Way Out Southside
Platforms 1b to 12b an
Customer information
First class lounge Blue zone
Toilets Available in all zones
British Journal of Photography
Photographed by Garry Jones
Portrait of Britain
JCDecaux
tombola
More than 2,000 winners every day!
Find a job
OOOOPS

"I think it's very important that women from all communities, of all ages, of all origins come out and join each other to do activities together. I feel very inspired by the other ladies in the group and seeing what they are capable of."

Ani, fencer from Birmingham

Muslim Girls Fence is now seen among the sports sector, education sector, and the intersection with health, physical and mental wellbeing, as an example of good practice, influencing a culture change nationally in order to share resources and approaches that address systemic inequalities faced by Muslim women, girls and communities.

In January we delivered a guest lecture at SOAS on a module called 'How to change things' to discuss Nobody's Metaphor film and how we use radical storytelling and film for making change in our communities to 70 master students. Again trying to address systemic inequalities and create better services for Muslim women and girls by providing an alternative version of what it is like to be a young woman in the UK today, and providing a platform for them to create their own stories.

In January we delivered an anti-racist session called, *"What does liberation look like for Muslim communities?"* at Mind's Information Team mini-conference. It was a chance for Mind staff to be inspired by new ideas, to hear concepts and ideas that will inform their work in the next year.

We continue to use MGF work to show the importance of taking an anti-racist approach to mental health for young people. This requires not only creating culturally sensitive resources but also understanding how systemic racism and policies such as Prevent can harm a young person's mental health and sense of belonging.

YOUTH-LED APPROACH

We are developing a MGF national ambassador programme for young people. We have been piloting the programme this year with two young facilitators, 16-year-old Aisha B, and 17-year-old Aisha H co-designing, and facilitating MGF sessions in school and in community spaces.

Aisha B led on delivering a community iftar in Shepherd's Bush. It was a place for women and

girls to come together to share learning, wisdom and awareness of pressing issues, particularly the crises in Palestine and Sudan, with the aim to inspire action and support for those in need while celebrating the richness of our faith.

Aisha H also delivered two community iftars in partnership with Pelican House in Tower Hamlets. The first community iftar was a migrant-centred space in collaboration with Revoke, a grassroots organisation advocating for the rights and welfare of displaced people and connecting them with wider social justice movements.

Our second community iftar was a queer-centred space, again Aisha H helped to lead on the day, with over 40 people attending.

Criminal Justice

In order to 'bridge the data gap' on Muslims experience of prison, we have used Freedom of Information requests to spotlight racial disparities in the prison system. We have been able to highlight where government policy and practices fall short, and challenge the reliance on 'cultural competency' and 'unconscious bias' trainings within the sector as an adequate response to racial injustice. Some of the data requests include: Exclusion from access to worship; Use of segregation; Adjudications in prison (which suggests Muslims are more likely to be punished by removing them from activity and living units).

In March 2023 we published a briefing on the use of pava spray in prisons against Muslims, showing the disproportionate and increased use on Muslims in prison (The Hidden Lives of Muslims in Prison). The briefing was shared widely across the sector and was reported by the Guardian (read the article here).

We also tabled Prime Minister Questions on Muslims in prison to HMPPS through the former Labour Shadow Secretary for Prisons. This was another effective source of data, and allowed us to use FOI data we received to hold government accountable for conditions in prisons, e.g. access to corporate worship post-covid.

We participate in a number of working groups and networks to influence and shape criminal justice policy – through which we can share our work more widely, inform policy processes and outputs, and make sure the experiences of Muslims and other racialised groups are recognised and drawn on to create meaningful changes in the criminal justice system. Some of these networks are:

Female Offender Minority Ethnic (FOME)
A Ministry of Justice working group bringing together specialised organisations to develop guidance aimed at improving outcomes for ethnic minority women in the criminal justice system.

EQUAL National Independent Advisory group
Created out of the 2014 Young Review, the advisory group brings together a range of people from government, charitable, research and community settings to break down the multiple barriers and challenges experienced by people racialised as Black, Asian, minority ethnic or Muslim in the criminal justice system.

MASLAHA #1 BRIEFING

THE HIDDEN LIVES OF MUSLIMS IN PRISON

A split-second reaction? Uncovering the higher use of pepper spray on Muslims in prison

Prison officers are increasing their use of "pepper spray" against Muslims in prison year on year making them one of the most targeted groups. Called PAVA, this spray can cause severe injury and permanent disabilities.

Through Freedom of Information requests, we are seeing an increase in state sanctioned violence against Muslims through the use of PAVA spray. This is coupled with a significant increase in the Muslim population, now making up 18% of those incarcerated in 2023.

● In 2018, PAVA — a synthetic pepper spray — was introduced into prisons in England and Wales. A pilot in four prisons was deemed successful and the government announced a £2 million investment to equip every prison officer in the adult male estate with PAVA on the grounds that it could "help to reduce serious harm in prisons".[i] ●

Although the introduction of PAVA was temporarily slowed during the COVID pandemic, by July 2023, 89 prisons had completed its rollout.[ii] PAVA is known to cause injury to the eyes, respiratory tract and skin. In many cases these symptoms are short-lived, but the chemical irritants in PAVA can cause severe injury, permanent disabilities and, in rare cases, death. They have enhanced or prolonged effects when used in confined spaces.[iii]

maslaha

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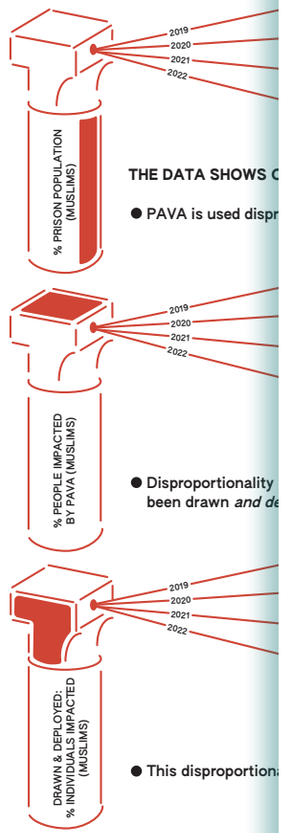

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MASLAHA, *TIME TO END*

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up call to those responsible for its
and enforcing equality legislation."

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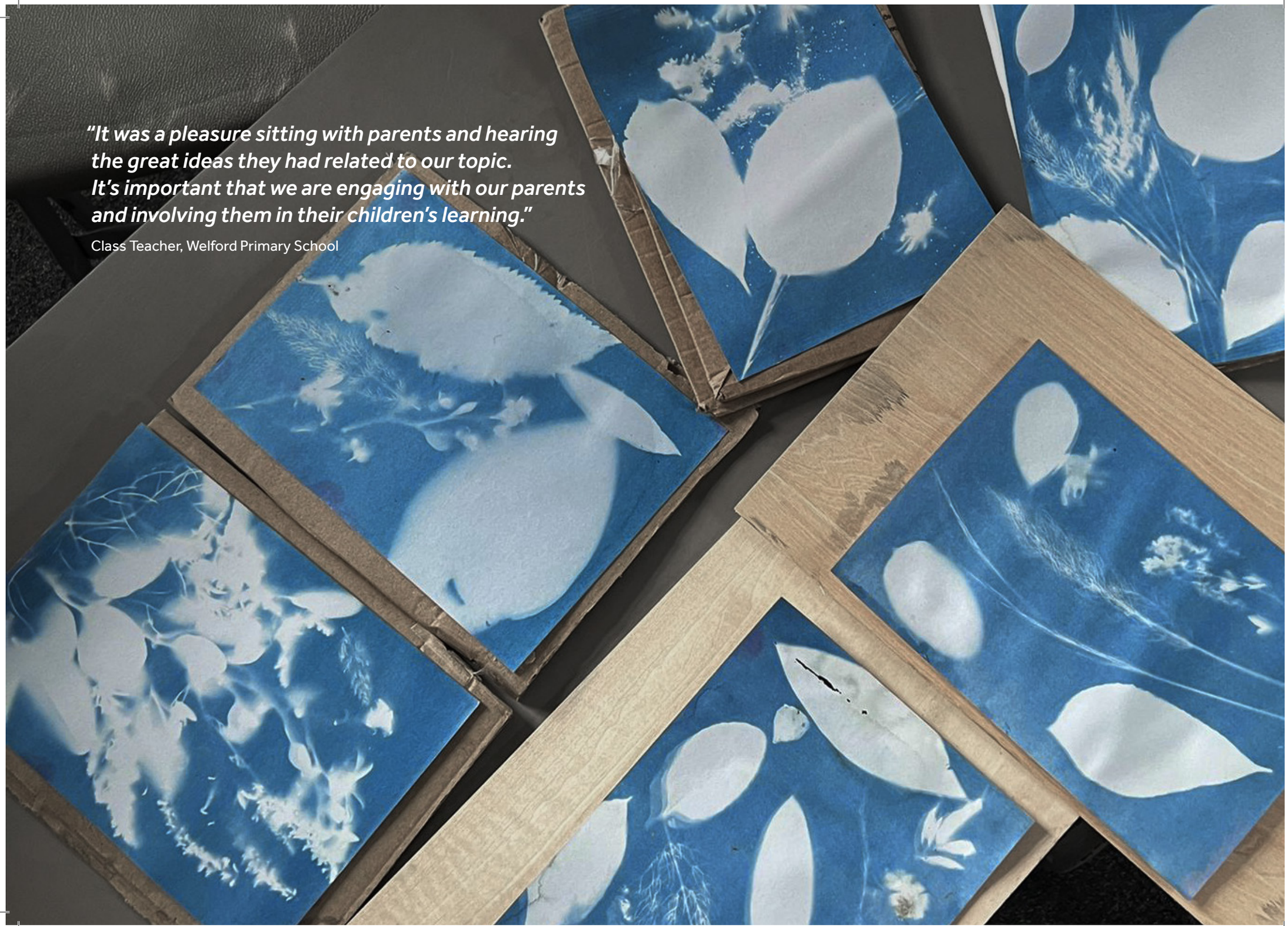

"It was a pleasure sitting with parents and hearing the great ideas they had related to our topic. It's important that we are engaging with our parents and involving them in their children's learning."

Class Teacher, Welford Primary School

3. Educating and empowering Muslim and other marginalised communities

Schools with Roots

IN-DEPTH SCHOOLS WORK

We are grateful to be able to continue working in partnership with one of the founding schools of the project, Sandringham Primary School in Newham, London. We are building on previous work around bringing in parents and carers into school life in meaningful ways. This year, we continued to work in partnership with Nazia, who runs the community organisation Sustainably Muslim, to deliver sessions for families on the theme of environment. Nazia is a former pupil of Sandringham Primary and is also based in Newham. Her creative sessions were enthusiastically received by children and parents shared that they enjoyed making connections with others in the school community.

This year we began our partnership with a new school in Birmingham, Welford Primary. It was great to meet so many parents/carers from Reception and Year Three classes. We supported teachers to create spaces where families can be involved in classroom learning and where their unique skills and experiences are recognised. In Reception, teachers opened up classes for families to participate in a range of activities alongside their children, from reading stories from their cultures to planting herbs that come from different parts of the world. In Year Three, it was the first time that parents/carers were invited to share their experiences and knowledge with class teachers. The response from parents was overwhelmingly positive and many shared how important it was to them that teaching in school reflected their identities and backgrounds.

We also began working at Archbishop Blanch School in Liverpool to understand how our tools can be translated to a Secondary School context. We delivered anti-racism training for the whole school team, including Support Staff, Kitchen and Lunch-time Staff and the Pastoral Team. With class teachers, we began reflecting on why and how teaching can be socially, locally and culturally relevant to all students. We look forward to continue working with staff on building positive relationships with the wider community.

Criminal Justice

BUILDING COMMUNITY RESPONSES TO THE HARMS OF PRISON

It is important Islam is seen as a supportive factor to rehabilitation within the criminal justice system rather than perceived through a lens of fear and risk. In November 2023, we launched Coming Home, a counselling service offered by Muslim therapists for Muslims harmed by prison, criminalisation and surveillance. It came about as a community response recognising faith as a vital and practical tool in supporting those affected by the prison system, and mobilising community partners including faith-based organisations, local mosques, community groups, and other Muslim civil society. It is available for those directly imprisoned, as well as families – recognising the profound impact that having a loved one taken away has.

The on-line sessions, conducted by Muslim therapists are faith and culture positive, providing a safe space for people to talk about their experiences without fear of being securitised and

"Thank you for the booklet, it has really made me realise that these issues within prison are not just isolated problems and they are issues within the whole prison estate."

Muslim Woman, HMP Foston Hall

misunderstood. We started delivering counselling sessions in December 2023 and have had over twenty people accessing the service since then. We have had positive responses from:

- Muslim men in prison interested in accessing the service on their release, and using it as part of their parole hearings.
- Prison Imams, and probation and prison staff, expressing the need for such a service and interest to share the service with those in prison, and refer specific individuals to use it.
- Mosques and community centres in London and Leicester recognising the value of the service for their community, and speaking about it during Friday prayers.

IN SOLIDARITY WITH THOSE IN PRISON

In April 2023, we launched UnCaptured, to spotlight the experiences of Muslims in prison. It was important that the pamphlet was also useful and relevant to those currently in prison. For example, the first edition focused on Ramadan, and included a 'Know your Rights' section, sharing sections of official prison guidance on rights to worship. The aim was to provide people in prison with knowledge about what they should be able to expect from prison and staff during Ramadan and Eid, so they can hold them to account.

We were able to share the publication with around 50-60 Muslim men and women currently in prison, and received letters in response welcoming the publication, with many stating it was reassuring to know they were not alone in this experience and that someone was speaking about it. We have invited those currently in prison and those that have been in prison previously to contribute to the next edition through writing, art, poetry.

"I found the articles and experiences realistic."
Muslim Man, HMP Wymott

"I enjoyed reading the first issue and I think it's a very helpful guide for all the brothers and sisters to use to understand better their rights as Muslims and the reality of our situation."
Muslim Man, HMP Guys Marsh

"The talking and understating what is going on in my head, breaking it down for me in terms I can understand. I also found that having that support reassured me that I am not going through this alone."
Coming Home serviced user

"Thanks for all the support. We need more services like this for Muslim ex-prisoners coming out."

Coming Home service user

4. Building a well-functioning organisation with financial and organisational sustainability

MEDIA/ APPEARANCES

- The Londonist – 'Muslim Girls Fence - The Movement That's Slicing Up Stereotypes' (June 2023)
- BBC – Muslim Girls Fence Birmingham fencer Tasmia Haq among winning photographs of 2023's Portrait of Britain from across the West Midlands (January 2024)
- The Photographic Journal – Muslim Girls Fence Birmingham (February 2024)
- The Guardian – Muslim prisoners unfairly targeted with pepper spray, says rights group (May 2024)

EVENTS

- **Women of the World (WOW) Festival in Leeds** - Barn will be built by 300 women and non-binary people in a spectacular 24-hour Barn Part of the barn raising and delivering fencing workshop to over 300 people in Leeds. Akeela Mohammed was part of 'Big Ideas' panel, Muslim Girls Fence participants closed the festival with spoken word poetry and fencing performance (May 2023) - Akeela Mohammed, Muslim Girls Fence - Doncaster
- **Coaches day for 15 Muslim Girls Fence coaches** in Birmingham. Bringing coaches from Doncaster, London, Birmingham and Bradford to build their confidence in fencing, delivering creative sessions and informing the strategy of Muslim Girls Fence (July 2023) - Muslim Girls Fence and British Fencing
- **Summer School at Springboard Youth Academy** to 60 young people. Springboard Youth Academy offers an innovative space and summer school for newly arrived teenagers from migrant backgrounds (August 2023) - Allia & Mercedes, Muslim Girls Fence
- **Muslim Girls Fence celebration and fencing competition in Birmingham** to 52 MGF fencers and coaches from across Birmingham, Doncaster, Bradford and London. (November 2023)

- **Guest Lecture at SOAS on a module called 'How to change things'** to discuss Nobody's Metaphor film and how we use radical storytelling and film for making change in our communities to 70 master students (January 2024) - Allia, Muslim Girls Fence
- **Muslim Girls Fence workshop on "What does liberation look like for Muslim communities?"** at Mind's Information Team mini-conference. It was a chance for Mind staff to get inspired by new ideas, to hear concepts and ideas that will inform their work in the next year. Explore anti-racist practice and working in the Muslim community (January 2024) - Allia, Muslim Girls Fence and Raheel Mohammed
- **Inclusive community day of sword sports** in Birmingham for 80 people with Muslim Girls Fence and By the Sword, a LGBTQ+ fencing club to learn about the modern and historical art of fencing (January 2024) - Binni and Muslim Girls Fence
- **Youth-Led Community Ifar** at Anti-Tribalism Movement, West London. Led by young ambassador Aisha Bafo for over 60 people. A place for women and girls across different ages, to come together to share learning, reflections (March 2024) - Allia, Aisha B, Muslim Girls Fence
- **Community Iftar with Revoke** at Pelican House, Tower Hamlets. Partnered with a young person from Revoke a grassroots organisation advocating for the rights and welfare of displaced people and connecting them with wider social justice movements for over 50 people (March 2024) - Allia, Aisha H (young ambassador for Muslim Girls Fence), Revoke
- **Community iftar with a queer centred space** for over 50 people (March 2024) - Allia, Aisha H (young ambassador for Muslim Girls Fence)
- **Panel for No More Exclusions webinar "Palestine Liberation in Schools: Know Your Rights"** in March to over 200 people. Young Ambassador Aisha Bafo and Muslim Girls Fence spoke about resistance and solidarity strategies for young people, parents, carers and educators (March 2024) - Aisha B (Muslim Girls Fence Young Ambassador) and Allia, Muslim Girls Fence

Coming Up

SCHOOLS WITH ROOTS

We will be continuing to work directly with parents/carers in London and Birmingham, building on the relationships we have made this year. Alongside parents/carers we will co-design and facilitate sessions exploring the themes of identity. This community space will bring together families to learn together and from each other in creative ways.

We will also be completing resources that support teachers to create cultures of safety for all students through safeguarding practices rooted in care and as well as examples for socially, locally and culturally responsive teaching.

We will continue to work closely with the Muslim Girls Fence Project Team to develop the provision for Secondary Schools they will be supporting, through tailored teacher training and study sessions. We are excited to develop partnerships with other education and community organisations including The Linking Network in Bradford and Ort Gallery in Birmingham.

We look forward to developing our provision for schools to embed anti-racism into their cultures and teacher practice.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

We will continue to work with partners to improve access to services for Muslims in prison, as well as increase religious and racial literacy within these organisations. We also expect to start a new venture with Prisoners Education Trust (PET) and Cambridge Muslim College to co-develop content for a distance learning option for Muslim prisoners, which will be piloted in a prison in Spring-Summer 2025. We will also be continuing to build and disseminate evidence on Muslim's experiences of data through various creative ways, to inform and influence institutions, policies, and procedures.

Supporting families affected by prison

We've heard from many Muslims that when a loved one has been taken to prison, they have not received proper support to understand prison administrative processes, did not know where to ask for help, or were reluctant to challenge a discriminatory system that community members have had negative experiences with. In response, we have developed a new resource, to be launched in Autumn 2024, which provides basic information to families about how to navigate the prison system – such as how to find out where their loved one is, how to contact them and arrange visits, and send money and parcels. The aim of the resource is to help remove some of the fear and sense of isolation that comes with trying to make sense of the prison system and communicating with them.

MUSLIM GIRLS FENCE

Muslim Girls Fence will be focusing on developing our young people's programme and centring young people's voices and skills in everything we do. We hope to create more youth-led resources on mental health, Islamophobia, sports, sexism and racism. We hope through this work to showcase new ways of working and influence policymakers and leading youth and mental health organisations to have a multi-dimensional and accurate reflection of the mental health needs and experiences of Muslim women and girls through our findings, evidence and research. This includes creating a podcast young people are currently recording about the realities of being a Muslim girl covering issues of mental health, school, family and Islamophobia.

We will be developing youth-led resources for teachers, educators and parents to understand the realities of Muslim girls, providing alternatives to what is being provided in schools and developing more anti-racist practices for educators.

We hope to support a young person to deliver in her community of Newham fencing sessions for older Muslim women (50+) to introduce them to the sport of fencing and get them active and become campaigners in their local community.

Thanks

Maslaha gratefully acknowledges funding in 2023/2024 from:

Pears Foundation

National Lottery

Barrow Cadbury

Lloyds Foundation

A B Charitable Trust

Network for Social Change

Sport England

Comic Relief

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust

Tudor Trust

Esmee Fairbairn

Muslim Girls Fence gratefully acknowledges funding in 2023/2024 from:

Go London Funding – The Mayor of London, London Marathon Foundation and Sport England

National Lottery

Financial Summary

Financial Review

During the year 2024 Maslaha made a net loss of £29,817 (2023: net surplus £188,452) resulting in net assets of £713,978 (2023: £743,795).
The organisation has a number of multi-year grants with principal sources of funding from a variety of charitable foundations, as well as donations and consultancy work. All expenditure for the year is directly related to fulfilling the aims and objectives of the funder's requirements.

Reserves Policy

In the Trustees' view, the reserves should provide the charity with adequate financial stability through maintaining sufficient reserves in liquid form to meet short term obligations. As Maslaha develops its own internal infrastructure, the reserve level will be reviewed to ensure sufficient to support the organisation to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future. The trustees propose to maintain the charity's reserves at a level which is at least equivalent to three months overhead expenditure. This level has been set giving due regard to its manner of operation & likely funding streams. At present, this is taken as £126k.

The Trustees acknowledge that as a small & growing organisation Maslaha may need to utilise reserves to support cash flow; this is permitted in the following circumstances:

To support cash flow during a timing discrepancy within a project which is demonstrably on budget overall

To cover unexpected or unforeseen costs that need to be borne by the organisation.

If either of the above are triggered and would be deemed to de-stabilise the organisation, a case is to be put to trustees for consideration and authorisation prior to spend.

The Trustees regularly review the amount of reserves that are required to ensure that they are adequate to fulfil the charity's continuing obligations.

Please note, surpluses are retained as reserves for the future operating activities of the charity.

Legal and Admin

The objects of the Charity are:

- to advance the education of the public in the subject of the Islamic faith and its practice and to there- by promote a greater awareness and understanding of Islam and its daily practice amongst Muslims and non-Muslims alike;
- and to promote equality and diversity for the public benefit in particular but not exclusively by:

  (a) raising public sector awareness and understanding of Islam and the need for services that are appropriately tailored for and sensitive to the practices of Muslim communities; and

  (b) promoting and informing dialogue, debate and greater understanding between Muslims and non-Muslims on issues of cohesion and integration. In practice this is achieved through our approach.

Our team

Raheel Mohammed – Director
Sahra Mohamed – Head of Operations
Zahbia Yousuf – Senior Project Manger
Saara Quested – Senior Project Manager
Allia Fredericks – Senior Project Manager
Suleman Amad – Project Manager
Nirad Abrol – Project Manager
Fabiolla Lorusso – Project Manager

Our trustees

Alia Alzougbi
Jane Earl
Jodie Beck
Sameer Rahim
Shereen Fernandez

Thank you to all the staff who have contributed their hard work and expertise to our work and have moved on, and excited to be working with new colleagues.

Our address

Maslaha

Oxford House
Derbyshire Street
London E2 6HG

Bank details

HSBC Bank PLC

465 Bethnal Green Road,
Bethnal Green, London E2 9QW

Independent examiner

Anthony Epton
BA FCA CTA FCIE

Goldwins Chartered accountants
75 Maygrove Road, West Hampstead,
London NW6 2EG

Report of the trustees

The Trustees are required by law to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which show a true and fair view of the financial activities of the company and of its financial position at the end of that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and with applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on an ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accountancy records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the company and to 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.

The principle objects of the charity during the year are stated in the Legal & Admin section of this report. The trustees are aware of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit reporting as set out in Section 17 Charities Act 2011. The Trustees believe that the charity achieves a public benefit as detailed elsewhere in this report.

Approved by and signed on behalf oh the trustees, on 3 December 2024:

Alia Alzougbi

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Maslaha for the 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.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Anthony Epton BA FCA CTA FCIE

Goldwins Chartered accountants
75 Maygrove Road, West Hampstead,
London NW6 2EG

3 December 2024

Accounts

Maslaha
Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	**75**	**-**	**75**	1,500
Charitable activities	4	**201,400**	**226,658**	**428,058**	524,805
Other trading activities	5	**1,050**	**500**	**1,550**	2,300
Total income		**202,525**	**227,158**	**429,683**	528,605
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	**90,967**	**368,533**	**459,500**	340,153
Total expenditure		**90,967**	**368,533**	**459,500**	340,153
Net income for the year	7	**111,558**	**(141,375)**	**(29,817)**	188,452
Transfers between funds		**-**	**-**	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**111,558**	**(141,375)**	**(29,817)**	188,452
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		**381,989**	**361,806**	**743,795**	555,343
Total funds carried forward		**493,547**	**220,431**	**713,978**	743,795

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 16 to the financial statements.

Maslaha

Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
Current assets:					
Debtors	**12**	**50,000**		55,000	
Cash at bank and in hand		**673,070**		699,265	
		723,070		754,265	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**13**	**9,092**		10,470	
Net current assets			**713,978**		743,795
Total net assets	**14**		**713,978**		743,795
Funds	**15**				
Restricted funds			**220,431**		361,806
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds		**493,547**		381,989	
Total unrestricted funds			**493,547**		381,989
Total funds			**713,978**		743,795

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.The directors acknowledge their responsibility for.complying with the requirements of the Act withrespect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companiessubject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the trustees on December 3rd 2024
and signed on their behalf by:

Alia Alzougbi
Trustee

Company registration no. 7309979

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

Maslaha
Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	a	**(26,195)**	184,543
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Sale/ (purchase) of fixed assets		-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		**(26,195)**	184,543
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		**699,265**	514,722
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	b	**673,070**	699,265

a) Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	**(29,817)**	188,452
Decrease / (Increase) in debtors	**5,000**	(5,009)
Increase / (Deccrease) in creditors	**(1,378)**	1,100
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	**(26,195)**	184,543

b) Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	At 1 April 2023 £	Cash flows £	Other changes £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	**699,265**	**(26,195)**	**-**	**673,070**
Total cash and cash equivalents	**699,265**	**(26,195)**	**-**	**673,070**

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

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 - effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

b) Reconciliation with previously Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP)

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was required.

c) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

d) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. Income received in advance for the provision of specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is a treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

e) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

f) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

g) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted 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 Accounting policies (continued)

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise of trading costs and the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 6.

j) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Computer equipment	on 3 years straight line basis

k) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

l) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

m) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2023 Total Funds
	£	£	£
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	500	1,000	1,500
Charitable activities	169,000	355,805	524,805
Other income	2,300	-	2,300
Total income	171,800	356,805	528,605
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities:	67,891	272,262	340,153
Total expenditure	67,891	272,262	340,153
Net income before gains / (losses) on investments	103,909	84,543	188,452
Net gains / (losses) on investments	-	-	-
Net income	103,909	84,543	188,452
Transfers between funds	-	-	-
Net income before other recognised gains and losses	103,909	84,543	188,452
Net movement in funds	103,909	84,543	188,452
Total funds brought forward	278,080	277,263	555,343
	381,989	361,806	743,795

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Restricted Funds**	**2024 Total Funds**	2023 Total Funds
	£	**£**	**£**	£
Donations	**75**	**-**	**75**	1,500
	75	**-**	**75**	1,500

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Income earned from charitable activities				
Grants				
Pears Foundation	**50,000**	**-**	**50,000**	50,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust	**-**	**10,750**	**10,750**	10,250
Sports England	**-**	**27,616**	**27,616**	63,157
Esmee Fairbairn	**50,000**	**-**	**50,000**	65,000
Tudor Trust	**50,000**	**-**	**50,000**	-
Lloyds Foundation	**-**	**-**	**-**	130,441
King's College	**2,400**	**-**	**2,400**	-
Joseph Rowntree	**20,000**	**-**	**20,000**	29,000
National Lottery	**-**	**49,991**	**49,991**	49,991
Baring Foundation	**-**	**-**	**-**	1,954
National Lottery - SWR	**-**	**100,012**	**100,012**	100,012
Noel Buxton Trust	**-**	**-**	**-**	-
AB Charitable Trust	**29,000**	**-**	**29,000**	25,000
The Bromley Trust	**-**	**10,000**	**10,000**	-
Network For Social NSCCT	**-**	**8,016**	**8,016**	-
Go London	**-**	**20,273**	**20,273**	-
Total income from charitable activities	**201,400**	**226,658**	**428,058**	524,805

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Consultancy fees	**1,050**	**500**	**1,550**	2,300
	1,050	**500**	**1,550**	2,300

6 Analysis of expenditure

	Charitable activities	**2024 Total**	2023 Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	**325,516**	**325,516**	268,864
Direct cost			
Project costs	**102,861**	**102,861**	45,190
Publicity & Reports	**-**	**-**	300
Support cost			
Office costs	**18,766**	**18,766**	19,644
Governance cost			
Bank charges	**132**	**132**	130
Examiner's fees	**1,200**	**1,200**	1,100
Accountancy fees	**11,025**	**11,025**	4,925
Total expenditure 2024	**459,500**	**459,500**	340,153
Total expenditures 2023	340,153	340,153	

Of the total expenditure, £90,967 was unrestricted (2023: £67,981) and £368,533 was restricted (2023: £272,262).

Analysis of expenditure-prior year

	Charitable activities	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	268,864	268,864	260,457
Direct cost			
Project costs	45,190	45,190	95,114
Publicity & Reports	300	300	475
Support cost			
Office costs	19,644	19,644	7,058
Governance cost			
Bank charges	130	130	144
Examiner's fees	1,100	1,100	980
Accountancy fees	4,925	4,925	12,200
Total expenditure 2023	340,153	340,153	376,428
Total expenditures 2022	376,428	376,428	

7 Net incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging / crediting:

	2024	2023
	£	**£**
Independent Examiner's fees net of VAT	**1,000**	900

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	**£**
Salaries and wages	**283,846**	238,633
Social security costs	**22,802**	20,926
Staff pension costs	**13,806**	8,132
Other staff costs	**5,062**	1,173
	325,516	268,864

The total employee benefits including pension contributions of the key management personnel were £86,623 (2023: £81,955).

The following number of employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension) during the year between:

	2024	2023
£70,000 -£79,000	**1**	1

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2023: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2023: £nil).

No trustees received any payment or reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs.

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Charitable activity	**3.0**	3.0
Support	**1.5**	1.5
Governance	**0.5**	0.5
	5.0	5.0

10 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

11 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accured income	**50,000**	55,000
	50,000	55,000

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Taxation & social security	**6,892**	7,689
Pension liabilities	**-**	881
Accruals	**2,200**	1,900
	9,092	10,470

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General Unrestricted funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Net current assets	**493,547**	**-**	**220,431**	**713,978**
Net assets at the end of the year	**493,547**	-	**220,431**	**713,978**

Analysis of net assets between funds-prior year

	General Unrestricted funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Net current assets	381,989	-	361,806	743,795
Net assets at the end of the year	381,989	-	361,806	743,795

15 Movements in funds

	At the start of the year	Incoming resources & gains	Outgoing resources & losses	Transfers	At the end of the year
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:					
Barrow Cadbury	**-**	**10,750**	**(10,750)**	**-**	**-**
National Lottery - SWR	**53,727**	**100,012**	**(94,315)**	**-**	**59,424**
National Lottery	**70,748**	**49,991**	**(84,686)**	**-**	**36,053**
Sports England	**41,076**	**27,616**	**(68,692)**	**-**	**-**
Lloyds Foundation	**165,575**	**500**	**(65,528)**	**-**	**100,547**
Baring Foundation	**30,680**	**-**	**(30,680)**	**-**	**-**
The Bromley Trust	**-**	**10,000**	**(10,000)**	**-**	**-**
Go London	**-**	**20,273**	**(3,882)**	**-**	**16,391**
Network For Social NSCCT	**-**	**8,016**	**-**	**-**	**8,016**
Total restricted funds	**361,806**	**227,158**	**(368,533)**	**-**	**220,431**
General funds					
Total Unrestricted Funds	**381,989**	**202,525**	**(90,967)**	**-**	**493,547**
Total unrestricted funds	**381,989**	**202,525**	**(90,967)**	**-**	**493,547**
Total funds including pension fund	**743,795**	**429,683**	**(459,500)**	**-**	**713,978**

Movements in funds-prior year	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Barrow Cadbury	3,139	10,250	(13,389)	-	-
National Lottery - SWR	-	100,012	(46,285)	-	53,727
National Lottery	79,968	50,991	(60,211)	-	70,748
Evens Foundation	10,653	-	(10,653)	-	-
Sports England	1,184	63,157	(23,265)	-	41,076
Porticus Foundation	11,260	-	(11,260)	-	-
Lloyds Foundation	124,210	130,441	(89,076)	-	165,575
Baring Foundation	46,849	1,954	(18,123)	-	30,680
Total restricted funds	277,263	356,805	(272,262)	-	361,806
General funds					
Total Unrestricted Funds	278,080	171,800	(67,891)	-	381,989
Total unrestricted funds	278,080	171,800	(67,891)	-	381,989
Total funds including pension fund	555,343	528,605	(340,153)	-	743,795

Barrow Cadbury
The purpose of this grant is to improving vital services for Muslims in the prison system and highlighting systemic racism.

Porticus Foundation
Developing Maslaha methodologies and tools to challenge educational inequality in UK primary schools.

Baring Foundation
Using legal tools to highlight the discrimination faced by Muslims in prison.

Sports England
This is a continuation of Muslim girl Fence in the context of inactivity and economic disadvantage.

Lloyds Foundation
Improving vital services for Muslims in the prison system and highlighting systemic racism.

National Lottery- continuation of the Muslim Girls Fence project and National Lottery
Connecting communities to schools

16 Operating lease commitments

At the balance sheet date, the charity had no financial commmitment under non-cancellable operating leases.

17. Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for the year (2023: none).

Maslaha was incorporated as a limited liability company (7309979) on July 9th 2010 and was registered as a charity in England and Wales (1139560) on December 29th 2010.

maslaha

MASLAHA

England & Wales - Charity number 1139560

Accounts

maslaha

ANNUAL REPORT 2022–2023

The reporting period for the annual report is April 2022-April 2023.

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Foreword

It was the bright red and green of the Masai fabrics and jewellery and the history of the cloth that opened up a space in a Coventry school. A mother and daughter explained to teachers, pupils and families, the depth of the rich knowledge that exists with the wider school community, through the intricate stitching and folding of garments.

A team member on our Schools with Roots team described how in that session, the Primary school which wanted to build stronger relationships with its families, worked with us to create a space for parents and careers to talk about their heritage. It unlocked an opportunity to not just talk about heritage but also the understanding that there is deep knowledge within our communities.

Creating a space to unlock that expertise has been key to the work of Muslim Girls Fence in schools. The team worked with Muslim pupils to create a zine, *Making Space for Healing*, a mental health resource for young people that understand the intersection of gender, religion and race, when so many mental health interventions are generic, one size-fits all interventions.

The School with Roots team continues to work with schools to increase their parental engagement by shaping how lessons are taught and the importance of understanding the context of communities. They have also been delivering training to over 300 trainee primary and secondary school teachers with the University of East London and University of Wolverhampton.

We have also been building up a body of research that highlights the specific institutional racism that Muslims in the prison system face through interviews and focus groups which we have captured in audio pieces and comics. These are due to be published in the next financial year and serve to fill a gap in reports by Government and mainstream charities.

We continue to work with larger charities such as the Samaritans and Pact to ensure their services are meeting the specific needs of Muslims in prison. Our focus in in ensuring that these vital services not only understand the specific cultural and religious needs of Muslims in prison but also understand that their services will be affected by a culture of Islamophobia.

We are sad to say that our Chair, Emran Mian, has decided to step down after many years of helping to build our programmes of work over many cups of coffee and breakfasts. We want to take this opportunity to thank him for his leadership and unwavering commitment to the organisation and his support for our work during these turbulent times. He has been vital to the growth of the organisation and we will miss his contributions to our trustee meetings.

Why Maslaha?

The past few years have seen a heightened focus on Muslim communities and Islam across the UK and abroad. The combination of terrorist attacks, war, political decisions, and social deprivation have all shaped with an intense pace how Muslims are seen and thought of in the public imagination. It has been out of this difficult period that Maslaha began as an idea to eventually become an independent organisation.

Maslaha translates from the Arabic as 'for the common good' and this is the driving force behind all our work.

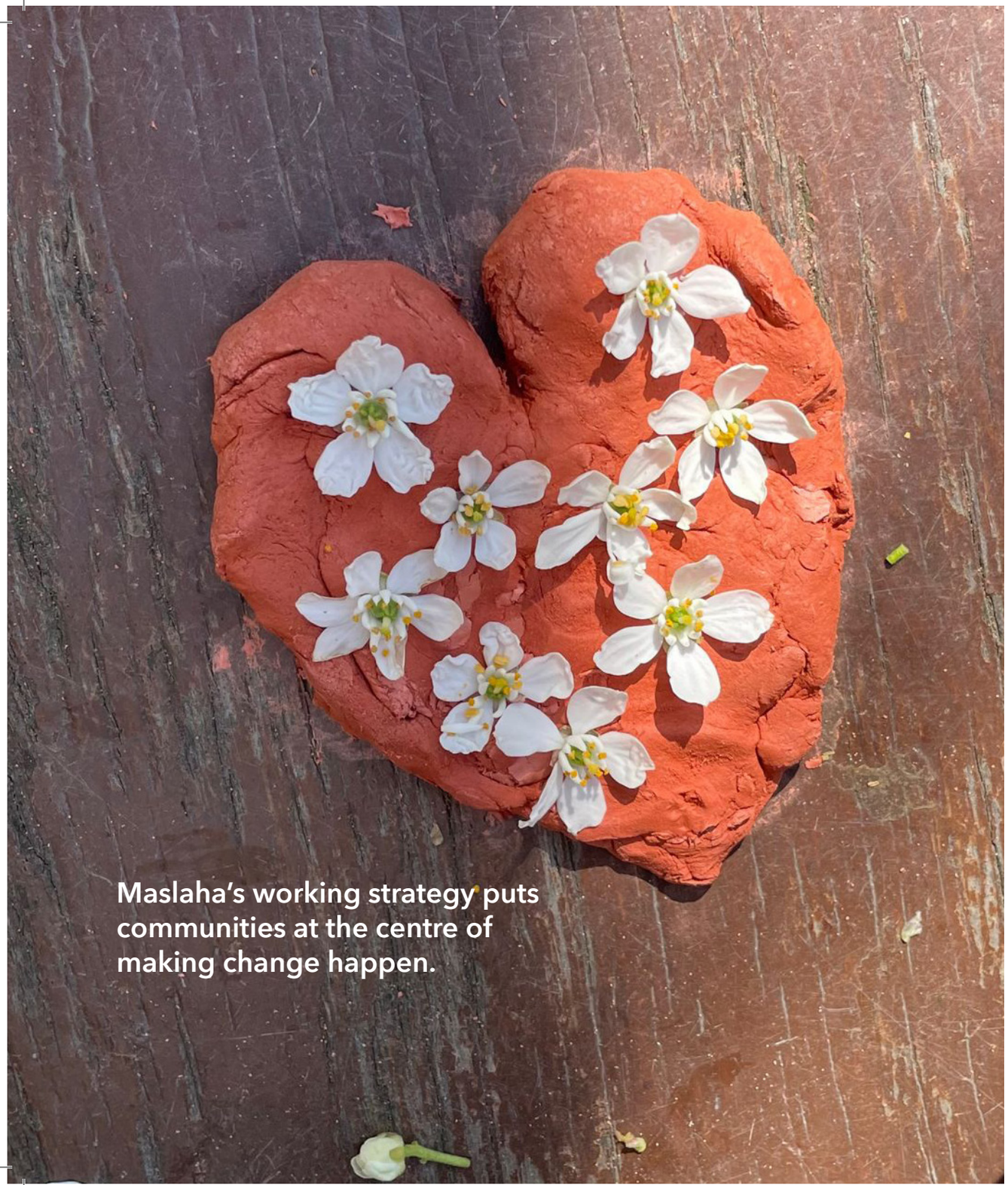
Despite this tense history our overwhelming experience has been that our partners from every sector of society are committed to, and believe, that it is possible to create empowered Muslim communities. Maslaha translates from the Arabic as' for the common good' and this is the driving force behind all our work. We tackle the most immediate social issues affecting Muslim communities today as well as creating a greater understanding of Islam from a cultural and historical perspective.

The name Maslaha is also important because it is about changing the language that is used about Muslims and Islam. We need to expand our language and vocabulary if we are to tackle some of our biggest issues, and if we are to give communities the space to think for themselves and speak on their own terms. Muslims represent the largest minority faith group in the UK and constitute an ethnically diverse population with a very young age profile. A significant proportion of this population lives in deprived inner-city areas, and Muslims have higher levels of unemployment, economic inactivity, ill health, educational achievement, and poor housing conditions than all other faith groups.

Our health work, for example, recognizes that Muslim communities experience disproportionately high health inequalities around conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, pregnancy and depression. A contributing factor to this is that both health services and communities are not equipped to appropriately tackle the root causes of these issues and engage with the complex realities of all patients' lives.

The way we approach this in our health interventions is to create resources for both patients and practitioners that combine faith advice and cultural references with medical advice. We then embed these resources in the everyday spaces of communities, as well as nationally. By doing this we have reached over 19,500 patients and health professionals and our resources are endorsed by NHS trusts across the country, the Royal College of GPs (RCGP) and medical curricula in universities.

One of Maslaha's strengths is bringing together a diverse mix of people within and between each project: supporters and partners include the young and the elderly, nurses and teachers, artists and academics, imams and historians, policy makers and school pupils, and those who do have a faith and those who do not. Our projects straddle a number of sectors and this unusual mix of people has led to new networks of collaboration and new perspectives on how social issues can be tackled.



Maslaha's working strategy puts communities at the centre of making change happen.

Our strategy

Maslaha's working strategy puts communities at the centre of making change happen. Our vision – that Muslim communities are empowered to overcome social inequalities – can only be truly achieved through working closely with communities, and by recognising their role as active proponents of that change. Our strategy will guide our work over the coming years and enable us to effectively work towards our objectives of reducing levels of deprivation amongst Muslim communities and challenging stereotypes.

Maslaha has produced award-winning and ground-breaking resources, driven by an ability to engage with communities, service providers, and decision-makers alike, to reach across perceived institutional divides, and to empower and enable motivated individuals and organisations to pursue good ideas based on a lived understanding of particular needs.

This approach informs all of our work, and is key to Maslaha's ability to implement our strategy effectively.

Our Areas of Work

HEALTH: Muslim communities frequently have trouble accessing health services. A lack of shared language between patients, communities and health practitioners contributes to challenges in accessing support, and that support being relevant and appropriate.

EDUCATION: There are high levels of underachievement and disengagement among young Muslims, which are linked to a lack of appropriate support and culturally relevant curriculums and impacted by negative stereotypes and misconceptions that surround Islam and Muslim communities, and their relationship with wider society.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE: The number of Muslims in prison has more than doubled over the past 15 years and their experience, treatment and outcomes in prison are consistently more negative compared to non-Muslims. Negative stereotyping has been shown to act as a barrier to opportunity and engagement with services for Muslims in prison.

GENDER: Muslim women and girls face complex discrimination that arises from the intersections of their faith, race, gender and other identities. This in turn creates complex challenges and barriers for them across society including in areas such as employment and education. For example Muslim women are 70% more likely to be unemployed than white Christian women.

Our Strategic Goals

1. Educating public service providers and wider society to better understand Muslim and other marginalised communities.
2. Influencing systemic change and replicating local success at a national level.
3. Educating and empowering Muslim communities.
4. Building a well-functioning organisation with financial and organisational sustainability.

We carry out our strategic objectives by working across three defined areas: practice, policy and public imagination. Each social issue will require a different mix of these, but by working across all of them we ensure our work can achieve real and lasting impact.

Practice – working practically with communities at a grassroots local level.

Policy – changing practice at a local level can only be sustained by sharing our learning at a strategic level and ensuring that this informs future policy decisions.

Public imagination – Influencing, and where possible shaping, public debates and media narratives. We combine creativity with everyday action and engagement to find new ways to connect and communicate.

Case Studies

1. Educating public service providers and wider society to better understand Muslim and other marginalised communities

Muslim Girls Fence

IN-DEPTH SCHOOLWORK WITH MULBERRY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

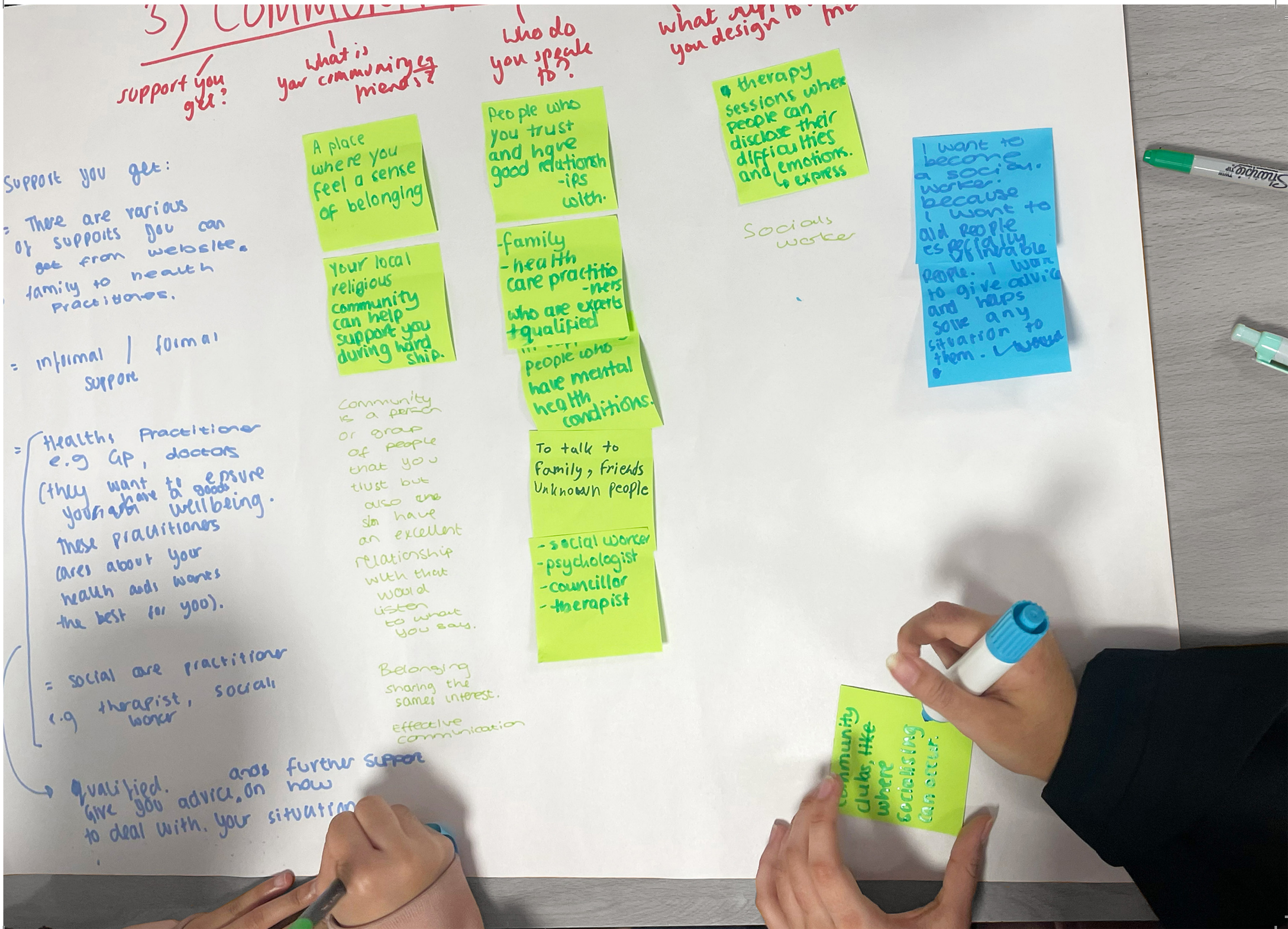
We have spent time building relationships with senior leaders, teachers and students at Mulberry School for Girls in Tower Hamlets, London, working with them during the academic year of 2022-2023 in order to understand the context of the school and the experiences of the students. For the first time in our long-term relationship, this has been the first academic year we have worked with all the year groups across the school, from Year 7 to Year 13. MGF were excited to explore these relationships with the school, students and Head of Enrichment to co-design and create bespoke sessions plans tailored to needs of the young girls and women – ranging from topics such as wellbeing, resistance, activism, Islamophobia, and sexism.

"Some people think that Muslim girls are quiet, can't do sports, and have to stay at home. We're breaking stereotypes because fencing is a white male dominated posh sport. Muslim girls can do whatever we want to do, we're sporty, we're confident, we're strong, we can be whatever we want to be"

Year 7 MGF participant
Mulberry School for Girls

"You might think a fencer wouldn't look like me, but I am a fencer. When I'm fencing, I feel powerful, I feel strong, I feel sisterhood and I feel free."

Year 10 MGF participant
Mulberry School for Girls


3) COMMUNITY
support you get?
What is your community/friends?
Who do you speak to?
what you design to
Support you get:
= There are various of supports you can get from website, family to health Practitioners.
= Informal / formal support
= Health Practitioner e.g GP, doctors (they want to ensure you have a good wellbeing. these practitioners cares about your health and wants the best for you).
= social care practitioner e.g therapist, social worker
Qualified. and further support Give you advice on how to deal with your situation
A place where you feel a sense of belonging
Your local religious community can help support you during hard ship.
Community is a person or group of people that you trust but also one has an excellent relationship with that would listen to what you say.
Belonging sharing the same interest.
Effective communication
People who you trust and have good relationsh -ips with.
-family
-health care practitio -ners who are experts +qualified
people who have mental health conditions.
To talk to Family, friends Unknown people
-social worker
-psychologist
-councillor
-therapist
therapy sessions where people can disclose their difficulties and emotions. to express
Socials worker
I want to become a social worker because I want to aid people especially vulnerable people. I want to give advice and helps solve any situation to them. I would
community clubs, like where socialising can occur.

MAKING
SPACE FOR
HEALING

YOUTH-LED MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCE & FILM

These rich relationships have also informed our youth-led mental health resource. We are creating a youth-led mental health resource with the young people from Mulberry, in a zine format due to be launched this year, called 'Making Space for Healing'.

We recognised there is a real need for 'culturally competent' mental health resources that understand the impact of racism, Islamophobia and structural inequalities on mental health and wellbeing in young people. This has been clear from our research, developing the resource with young people, teachers, parents, mental health professionals, as well as with key charities and organisations such as Anna Freud Centre, Centre for Mental Health, Mind and Home Girls Unite. We hope to showcase new ways of working and influence mental health policymakers and leading youth and mental health organisations to have a multi-dimensional and accurate reflection of the mental health needs and experiences of Muslim women and girls through our findings, evidence, and research.

The resource is targeted towards young women and girls across the country and is presented in a zine format, addressing the topics of care and wellbeing. It focuses on how Islamophobia and racism impact young people's mental health, as well as looking at the impact of creativity and physical activity in improving young people's wellbeing. It was written alongside young Muslim women from East London, as well as Muslim women professionals such as Dr Sara Alsaraf (psychiatrist and creative arts therapist), Lubna Dar (psychologist), Myria Khan (counsellor and founder of the Muslim Counselling and Psychotherapy Network), activists from No More Exclusions and artists Tazneim Zyada, Farah Soobhan and Soofiyah.

Co-creating with young people is culturally responsive, relevant, and embedded work that focuses on not only their mental health, but the impacts of structural racism and systemic inequalities, which are often overlooked by mainstream mental health resources. In their own words we explore the impacts of racism, sexism and Islamophobia on the mental health and wellbeing of young girls and women, as well as the tools that can be used to improve their wellbeing and give them strength and power. As we know, centring the voices of young Muslim women and girls is at the core of making change happen.

"You don't really get represented correctly, there aren't that many projects aimed specifically for Muslim girls. It's really nice to be able to explore what that means to me and say I feel proud to be a Muslim Girl! Being a Muslim girl means being creative, kind, sisterhood, friends and family."

Year 8 MGF Participant, Mulberry School for Girls

Alongside this, with the same group of young girls at Mulberry, the students have co-directed and written a film to discuss the importance of having creative, physical, and safe spaces like Muslim Girls Fence in schools, and the positive impact this has on their wellbeing. The film, called Centring Muslim Girls' Mental Wellbeing, is aimed at teachers, and will be launched alongside lesson plans, resources, and exercises to help teachers reflect on what they can do in their practice, as well as the wider school, to allow Muslim girls to bring their whole selves to the classroom. We hope that teachers will reflect about if and how they are creating spaces and learning environments for Muslim girls to express themselves fully and creatively.

"It's so important for the girls to have a safe space where they can be creative, get physically active and talk about issues affecting them like Islamophobia and sexism. It feels like an important wellbeing intervention. It is powerful that it is called 'Muslim Girls Fence' as it tells our girls they can take up space, fence and that their voices matter as Muslim girls."
Head of Enrichment, Mulberry School for Girls

Muslim Girls Fence is a vital space for Muslim women and girls to voice and share their feelings and define themselves beyond mainstream assumptions and narratives about them. This long-term relationship with the young people at Mulberry and the youth-led mental health resources help to reinstate girls as their own storytellers and opens a space for Muslim girls to express and celebrate their identity on their own terms.

Alongside this is a long-term strategy to bolster young Muslim women's engagement in issues that affect them beyond the workshops and in their school, by sharing and disseminating these youth-led mental health resources more widely. We are working to change public imagination, seeking to influence and shape public debates and media narratives about Muslim young women and mental health.

MAYOR OF LONDON'S EID IN THE SQUARE

We were also invited by the Mayor of London's office to run a MGF fencing session at Trafalgar Square for the second year in a row as part of the Mayor of London's Eid in the Square celebrations. The fencing coaches (Zohra and Ruhana) who delivered have both been fencing with Muslim Girls Fence in Whitechapel for over 2 years, before progressing into community coaches through the support of MGF and our sustainable project model. We had over 400 young people try out fencing for the first time, and following this, several people have signed up to our community sessions, expressing desire to start their own community sessions too, hopefully following suit of coaches such as Zohra and Ruhana.

WOMEN OF THE WORLD (WOW) BARN FESTIVAL IN LEEDS

Towards the end of the financial year Muslim Girls Fence was also invited to the Women of the World Barn Festival as part of Leeds Year of Culture 2023. The WOW Barn was built in 24 hours by 300 women, girls, and non-binary people.

We were part of the incredible 24-hour barn raising and delivered fencing workshops to over 300 people in Leeds. Akeela Mohammed from Muslim GIrls Fence in Doncaster was part of the WOW 'Big Ideas' panel where she discussed what being part of Muslim Girls Fence means to her and how sport builds love, happiness, and community. We also closed the first ever WOW festival in Leeds alongside WOW Founder Jude Kelly and Mayor West Yorkshire Tracy Brabin with a Muslim Girls Fence performance. Maleehah a young person from Muslim Girls Fence in Bradford performed a powerful poem alongside a fencing exhibition. We hope to continue to bring community and grassroot organisations into spaces where they can perform and inform sports organisations, the women and girls' sector, and key stakeholders.

Schools with Roots

TEACHER TRAINING

This year, we adapted and refreshed our training materials, ready for in-person delivery. Through our established relationship with the University of East London, we ran lectures and facilitated workshops for both primary and secondary trainee teachers. We worked with over 300 trainees in total, introducing them to socially, culturally, and locally relevant pedagogies in November 2022, so that learning can be made engaging and meaningful for children from all backgrounds. In February 2023, we also ran workshops on 'Power and Positionality,' looking at how racism operates at school level, and in May 2023, 'Bridging the Gap Between Classrooms and Communities,' to equip trainees with our tools for engaging with families and the wider community through an anti-racist lens.

Feedback from the participants was overwhelmingly positive.

"It was really informative and has helped me to think of ways I can facilitate a safer learning environment for the families I work with."
Trainee teacher

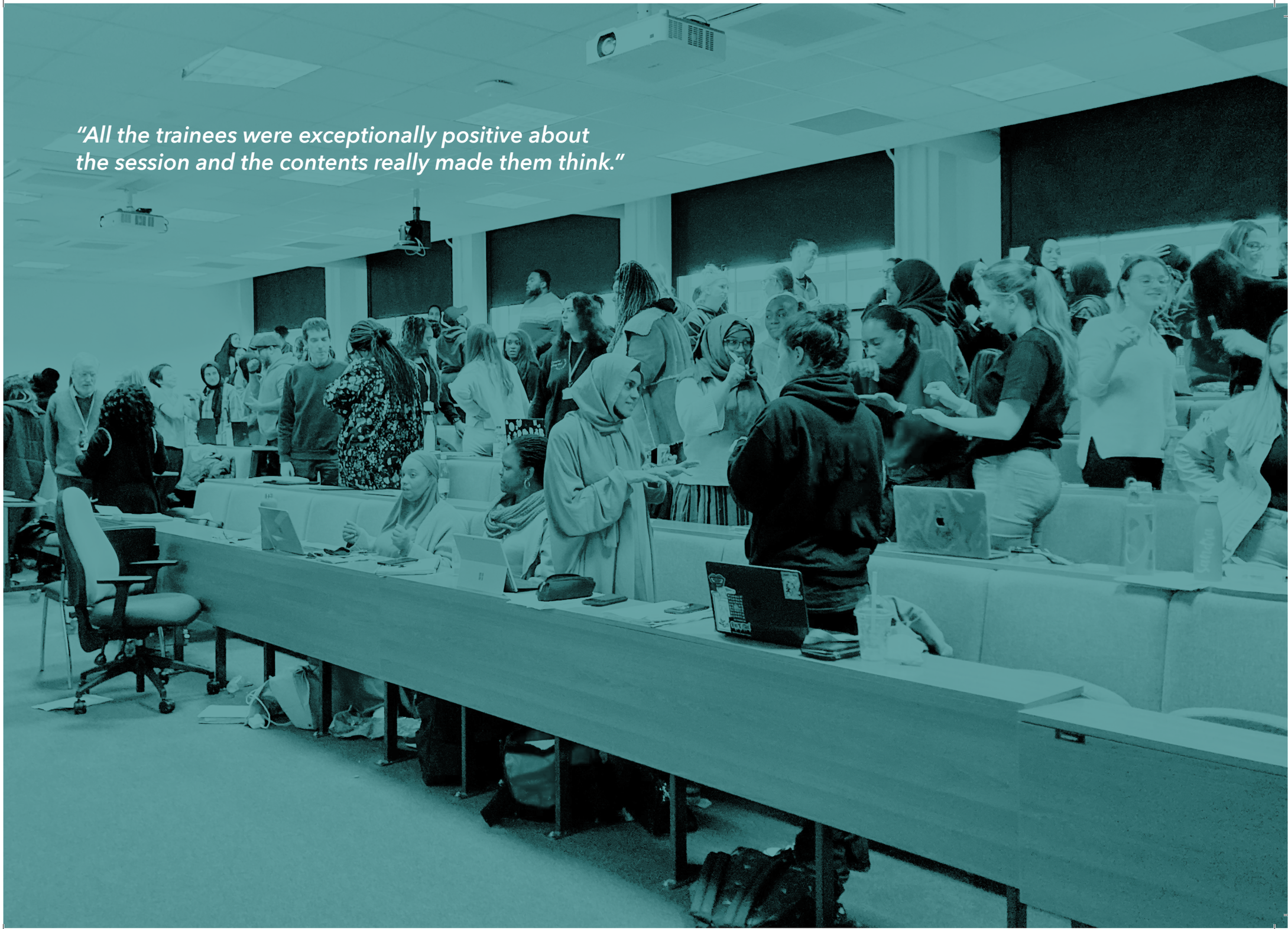
"It was so important and made us think about how we can improve our practice at school."
Trainee teacher

We were also invited to deliver a session for trainee teachers at the University of Wolverhampton in January 2023. We shared our work on Safeguarding, so that teachers are able to identify the root causes of harm and respond in a way that is contextual to the families they are working with.

"Thank you for your inspiring talk. All the trainees were exceptionally positive about the session and the contents really made them think."
Professor at University of Wolverhampton

We are excited to expand the universities and Initial Teacher Training providers we partner with for the next academic year, supporting trainees at the start of their teaching journey.

Over the year, we've also been exploring new, creative ways to connect with and support our community. One of these has been through running 'teach-out' days for educators, to explore the themes of our work in more detail. Our first one was held at the GAP community arts centre in Birmingham in March 2023 and created a space for practitioners to learn from our pedagogy and tools.


"All the trainees were exceptionally positive about the session and the contents really made them think."

Criminal Justice

We have continued to work with our partners in the criminal justice sector to ensure that vital services understand and are equipped to meet the needs of Muslims in the prison system. Our partnerships with PACT, Samaritans and the Prisoners' Education Trust allows us to have an overview of a range of vital services spanning mental health, family services and education.

This service design work has also enabled us to highlight how Islamophobia faced by Muslims in prison can also be an obstacle to accessing services.

We have been able to make a number of visits to both prisons for men and women, holding focus groups which allow us to hear directly what needs are being met and what improvement is needed. It also highlights constantly the need to develop services that are sensitive to culture, religion, gender, education, class, language, and racism. Generic services will always fall short on meeting the needs of communities we work with.

In a new area for the criminal justice programme, we have been working with other organisations to deliver mental health services to Muslims. This is based on the extensive research we have done on the impact of prison life, discrimination, and Islamophobia on Muslim prisoners' well being, and builds on Maslaha's widely used Talking from the Heart approach which explored mental health and therapy through combining medical and faith advice. We're working with clinical professionals and grassroots organisations to provide mental health support to people affected by the criminal justice system, and create a safe space for the provision of therapy to those who have been released from prison. This is to be delivered via Muslim therapists to help gain the trust of Muslim service users and ensure understanding of their culture and experiences.

CAPTURING THE PUBLIC IMAGINATION

We continue to raise awareness about the discrimination faced by Muslims in prison through a mixture of audio/visual content. This has included:

- Analysis of inspectorate and other official MoJ reports;
- Interviews with people are currently in or been through the prison system
- Interviews/insights from academics, commentators and practitioners including mental health practitioners and e.g. those such as the Samaritans, that have adapted their delivery to be more accessible to Muslims in prisons.
- An insight into the work of Black and brown-led practitioners to showcase different approaches and tools for challenging and addressing inequalities in prisons, and responding to specific needs of prisoners.

We have also been building and curating an extensive archive of interviews with individuals who have diverse experiences within the prison system, for a podcast series. This series will serve as a platform to share compelling narratives, drawing from the rich pool of interviews we have conducted over the years. By incorporating clips from these interviews, we aim to provide listeners with a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by individuals and the impact of the criminal justice system on their lives. This will be coupled with thought-provoking conversations with academics and professionals within the criminal justice/racial justice field.

2. Influencing systemic change and replicating local success at a national level

Muslim Girls Fence

CAMPAIGNS, PUBLIC IMAGINATION & POLICY – THIS GIRL CAN CAMPAIGN

Muslim Girls Fence is now seen among the sports sector, education sector, and the intersection with health, physical and mental wellbeing, as an example of good practice, influencing a culture change nationally to share resources and approaches that address systemic inequalities faced by Muslim women, girls, and communities.

Most notably, Muslim Girls Fence was part of the National This Girl Can National Enjoyment gap campaign in February 2023. 2.4 million fewer women than men strongly agree they enjoy sport and activity - this is what Sports England calls the Enjoyment Gap. Muslim Girls Fence aims to close the enjoyment gap by demonstrating that when sports and policy makers centre communities and women and girls' experiences, you are able to create inclusive, enjoyable, and accessible sports spaces. The campaign focused on the local Muslim Girls Fence sessions in Birmingham at the Ladywood Leisure Centre, focusing on the social and community impact of Muslim Girls Fence.

"At Muslim Girls Fence we make sure everyone feels included. The group is very diverse, but we focus on what we have in common; we are women who love to fence and spend time together. We build self-worth, give power to voices and most importantly, we bring communities together, to share questions and ideas, and to break the negative stereotypes that we carry on a daily basis. The social aspect of our activity is essential: it's vital that there is that place where you can feel safe and comfortable to be yourself, and know and believe that you won't be judged."
Binni, Muslim Girls Fence coach in Birmingham

Alongside the national campaign, our Birmingham coach Binni and Muslim Girls Fence community coordinator Akeela from Doncaster, were part of the launch event and panel to share learning and insights on how to close the enjoyment gap in the West Midlands. From being embedded at a local level to sharing our learning at a strategic level with a national audience, we continue to work to ensure

the expertise of our local coaches are shared in a way that will inform public services in the sport for development sector, statutory bodies, and funders such as Sports England with decision-making.

Muslim Girls Fence was also announced as a finalist alongside 16 other projects for The 2022 National Lottery Awards, an annual search to find the UK's favourite Lottery-funded projects and people.

On a local level, we are working with the Mayor of Tower Hamlets lead researcher and sports advisor to the executive on how to make young people and young women and girls sports more inclusive, focusing on Muslim women and girls.

We continue to work to influence and change practice to address systemic inequalities and create better services for Muslim women and girls, alongside changing the public imagination of Muslim women and girls to provide an alternative version of what is like to be young woman in the UK today, while providing a platform for them to create their own stories.

"The female estate has been left behind"

Muslim female prisoner
(from HMP Send)

Criminal Justice

We continue to engage and collaborate with key organisations and alliances such as the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), HM Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS), Clinks, T2A Alliance (Transition to Adulthood), and FOME (Female Offender Ethnic Minority working group) as part of our commitment to fostering positive change in the criminal justice system. We are part of steering groups for the Wales Criminal Justice anti-racism plan, specifically the Education & Competency Working Group and the Community Engagement group. Being part of these groups is essential because it allows us to contribute to the development and shaping of policies that focus on inclusivity for Muslim prisoners. By participating in these discussions, we can advocate for the specific needs of Muslim prisoners and ensure their voices are heard, thus working towards a fairer criminal justice system for all.

Our primary objective is to increase awareness and put an end to inequalities faces by Muslims in the criminal justice system. Maslaha aims to bring about significant changes within the criminal justice field through various approaches. These include actively informing and shaping official policy at both local and national levels, closely examining the government's and the broader sector's treatment of Muslims in the criminal justice system and advocating for their specific requirements.

USE OF LEGAL TOOLS

The use of legal tools to tackle racial injustice is a useful way to scrutinise government policy and practices as well as access data on racial disparities in the criminal justice system. Using Freedom of Information requests we aim to elicit a broader picture of Muslims' experience of the criminal justice system, including the disparities they face in treatment, and the impact of Prevent regime within prisons.

We are submitting several FOI requests for more data on key issues facing Muslims in prison. For example, on adjudications in prison which suggests Muslims are more likely to be punished by removing them from activity and living units; the Prevent programme and counter-radicalisation processes in prison which disproportionately impact Muslims and have traumatic consequences for individuals and communities. Our evidence gathering has also found that the complaints process in prison is not fit for purpose. Muslims report responses to complaints are late and inadequate and that the process is designed to cover staff rather than a mechanism to challenge poor practice or discrimination.

We have agreed a partnership with Bhatt-Murphy law firm who will litigate based on our research and our work with individuals in prison. They will represent an individual who makes a complaint based on how they are treated by a prison officer and the case will then be part of a public campaign to highlight the wider, systemic problems that exist.

HE WAS LEARNING ARABIC...
WHY IS IT AN ISSUE THAT A PRISONER WANTS TO LEARN A DIFFERENT LANGUAGE?
A LOT OF MUSLIM MEN ARE STARTING TO SHOW AN INTEREST WITHIN YOUR WORKSHOP
... AND IT COULD BE A CAUSE FOR CONCERN
THEY VIEW MUSLIMS AS A SORT OF A GANG

3. Educating and empowering Muslim and other marginalised communities

Schools with Roots

IN-DEPTH SCHOOLS-WORK

We are thrilled to be able to continue working in partnership with one of the founding schools of the project, Sandringham Primary School in Newham, London. We are building on previous work around bringing in parents and carers into school life in meaningful ways. The garden area that parents built through the project with us last year has now been expanded by them to include a pond area. It has already been providing valuable opportunities for the children's learning – from adding tadpoles and watching them grow to using the space to celebrate Earth Day. We are working closely with teachers on how they can continue to make teaching culturally relevant for their students such as through recent learning about South Asian heritage and training with the whole teaching team on how to build impactful relationships with parents and the wider community.

We really value the new relationship we are building this year with St Elizabeth's Primary School in Foleshill, Coventry. We have been meeting regularly with parents and carers to understand the unique strengths and experiences that the families bring and exploring together on how this can be brought into the classroom. We've been working to establish spaces in school for families to come together and build a community as well as working with teachers to equip them with tools to build sustainable relationships with parents. Many of the parents participated in our Topics Together sessions, which brings teachers, children, and parents together through collective planning and making on a topic that is linked directly to the curriculum.

One of the teachers shared that

"It was the first time I've been in a meeting with parents where they've been encouraged to share their ideas - it was great to see. I definitely learnt new things about all the parents - you wouldn't get a chance otherwise to learn personal details about a parent and they seemed to really enjoy engaging in the topic and sharing their experiences."

MFest

MFest is a multi-arts festival of Muslim knowledge and creativity. We bring together artists, activists,

thinkers, organisations, and collectives to celebrate the collective power of diverse Muslim communities, connect with our roots and imagine thriving futures. At MFest, we reclaim and

recontextualise the diverse stories and histories that represent Muslim communities. We work with

partners to explore and unlock existing archives - while also celebrating and acknowledging all the

vital ways that embodied knowledge sustains and nourishes our communities.

HAJAR PRESS PUBLICATIONS

Mohamed Tonsy, the winner of the 2021 MFest Short Story Competition that we launched in partnership with Hajar Press and with generous support from Spread the Word and Arvon Foundation, has published his debut novel "You must believe in spring" in October 2022. His novel has received outstanding reviews and praises.

"This critical contribution to contemporary Arab literature quietly keeps the flame—and the bruises—of a concussed Egyptian revolution alive."
Farah Abdessamad, writer, critic and essayist

WRITERS LAB

A big part of our reimagined MFest is addressing the barriers to accessing arts for many Muslim and Black and brown communities, so we focus on creating tangible opportunities and meaningful legacy, through various means such as our Writers Lab.

"This … is where the most exciting fiction is at this pivotal moment of global political turmoil."

Elizabeth Chakrabarty, author of Lessons in Love and Other Crimes

SELLERS

Nobody's Metaphor
.CUTTINGEAST.CO.UK
cuttingeast

4. Building a well-functioning organisation with financial and organisational sustainability

MEDIA/ APPEARANCES

- Free Radio (Birmingham) audio interview on Muslim Girls Fence for National Lottery - Project of the Year Award
- Free Radio (Birmingham) written interview on Muslim Girls Fence for National Lottery - Project of the Year Award
- Telegraph & Argus (Bradford) - Muslim Girls Fence article for National Lottery Award
- BBC Sheffield Radio Bulletin - Muslim Girls Fence for National Lottery Award
- BBC Radio Leicester – Criminal Justice Programme - 'Time to End Criminal Silence' campaign
- International Women's Month - Muslim Girls Fence spotlight by Mayor of Tower Hamlets for our work in Brady Arts Centre Community Centre

EVENTS

- Reducing Reoffending Third Sector Advisory Group, Clinks
- Police and Crime Equalities Group Round Table, Home Office
- Muslim Girls Fence x Muslimah Sports Association (MSA) fencing event for 15 participants in London
- Muslim Girls Fence workshop accompanying Bridging Landscapes at the Rich Mix, an exhibition by curator Aisha Zia, featuring British Asian artists from the South Asian diaspora
- Muslim Girls Fence x Home Girls Unite a support group and platform for immigrant daughters- delivered fencing and poetry workshop to 30 women
- Faith and Probation, London Probation service
- Muslim Girls Fence x Evolve Initiative, youth-led Muslim Group in Harrow - intergenerational fencing and wellbeing workshop to 30 women and girls. The fencing was led by Sumayyah who is 17 and has been part of Muslim Girls Fence since she was 14
- Panel for the launch of this Girl Can Campaign in Birmingham
- Sisterhood x Sports festival in Hackney. A women-only sports day in a hijab-friendly space led and designed by young leaders (ages 16-19) from East London Mosque. We delivered fencing to 80 young women girls from the ages of 16-60
- Panel for launch of 'London Together' report by In Focus and Comic Relief to an audience of 50 for Muslim Girls Fence

Coming Up

Muslim Girls Fence will be focusing on launching our youth-led mental health resources for the new academic year commencing September 2023. We hope alongside the zine, film, and lesson plans, to create a Muslim Girls Fence Mental Health Hub on the website for easy access to our resources, as well as other wellbeing resources for Muslim women and girls. We hope through this work to showcase new ways of working and influence mental health policymakers and leading youth and mental health organisations to have a multi-dimensional and accurate reflection of the mental health needs and experiences of Muslim women and girls through our findings, evidence, and research.

Building on the successes and learnings from this year, we are developing a comprehensive two-year programme for schools to embed principles and practices from the Schools with Roots Project. This will include bespoke teacher training, working directly with parents/carers and providing ongoing opportunities for teachers to engage critically with anti-racist pedagogy and be equipped with tools to nurture positive relationships with families. We are excited to be building partnerships in the West Midlands, to be able to expand and share the work we do in new regions. Next academic year, we plan to deliver our teacher training to students at the University of Birmingham and to support a primary school in Birmingham which is new to the project. We are in the process of creating a new multilingual animation for families on how they can develop life-long learning skills in children. This is in partnership with Sandringham Primary School in Newham and directly responds to the needs they have identified in the families they are working with.

Coming up in our Criminal Justice programme for the next year is the launch of our podcast series, "Time to End the Silence - The Podcast", providing a platform for real life conversations on criminal justice issues. Furthermore, we are proud to introduce "Coming Home," a mental health therapy project designed to support individuals transitioning from prison back into society. Our ongoing collaboration with PACT ensures our continued work in men and women's prisons, while our partnership with the Samaritans enables us to extend our efforts to support them in making their services inclusive of the Muslim population.

Thanks

Maslaha gratefully acknowledges funding in 2022/2023 from:

Pears Foundation

National Lottery

Barrow Cadbury

Lloyds Foundation

A B Charitable Trust

Network for Social Change

Sport England

Comic Relief

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust

Tudor Trust

Esmee Fairbairn

Financial Summary

Financial Review

During the year 2023, Maslaha made a net surplus of £188,452 (2022: £182, 048) resulting in net assets of £743,795 (2022: £555, 343). The organisation has a number of multi-year grants with principal sources of funding from a variety of charitable foundations, as well as donations and consultancy work. All expenditure for the year is directly related to fulfilling the aims and objectives of the funder's requirements.

Reserves Policy

In the Trustees' view, the reserves should provide the charity with adequate financial stability through maintaining sufficient reserves in liquid form to meet short term obligations. As Maslaha develops its own internal infrastructure, the reserve level will be reviewed to ensure sufficient to support the organisation to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future. The trustees propose to maintain the charity's reserves at a level which is at least equivalent to three months overhead expenditure. This level has been set giving due regard to its manner of operation & likely funding streams. At present, this is taken as £126k.

The Trustees acknowledge that as a small & growing organisation Maslaha may need to utilise reserves to support cash flow; this is permitted in the following circumstances:

- To support cash flow during a timing discrepancy within a project which is demonstrably on budget overall
- To cover unexpected or unforeseen costs that need to be borne by the organisation.

If either of the above are triggered and would be deemed to de-stabilise the organisation, a case is to be put to trustees for consideration and authorisation prior to spend.

The Trustees regularly review the amount of reserves that are required to ensure that they are adequate to fulfil the charity's continuing obligations.

Please note, surpluses are retained as reserves for the future operating activities of the charity.

Legal and Admin

The objects of the Charity are:

- to advance the education of the public in the subject of the Islamic faith and its practice and to there- by promote a greater awareness and understanding of Islam and its daily practice amongst Muslims and non-Muslims alike;
- and to promote equality and diversity for the public benefit in particular but not exclusively by:

  (a) raising public sector awareness and understanding of Islam and the need for services that are appropriately tailored for and sensitive to the practices of Muslim communities; and

  (b) promoting and informing dialogue, debate and greater understanding between Muslims and non-Muslims on issues of cohesion and integration. In practice this is achieved through our approach.

Our team

Raheel Mohammed – Director
Sahra Mohamed – Head of Delivery
Zahbia Yousuf – Senior Project Manger
Saara Quested – Senior Project Manager
Allia Fredericks – Senior Project Manager
Suleman Amad – Project Manager
Nirad Abrol – Project Manager
Fabiolla Lorusso – Project Manager

Our trustees

Alia Alzougbi
Jane Earl
Sameer Rahim
Shereen Fernandez

Thank you to all the staff who have contributed their hard work and expertise to our work and have moved on, and excited to be working with new colleagues.

Our address

Maslaha

Oxford House
Derbyshire Street
London E2 6HG

Bank details

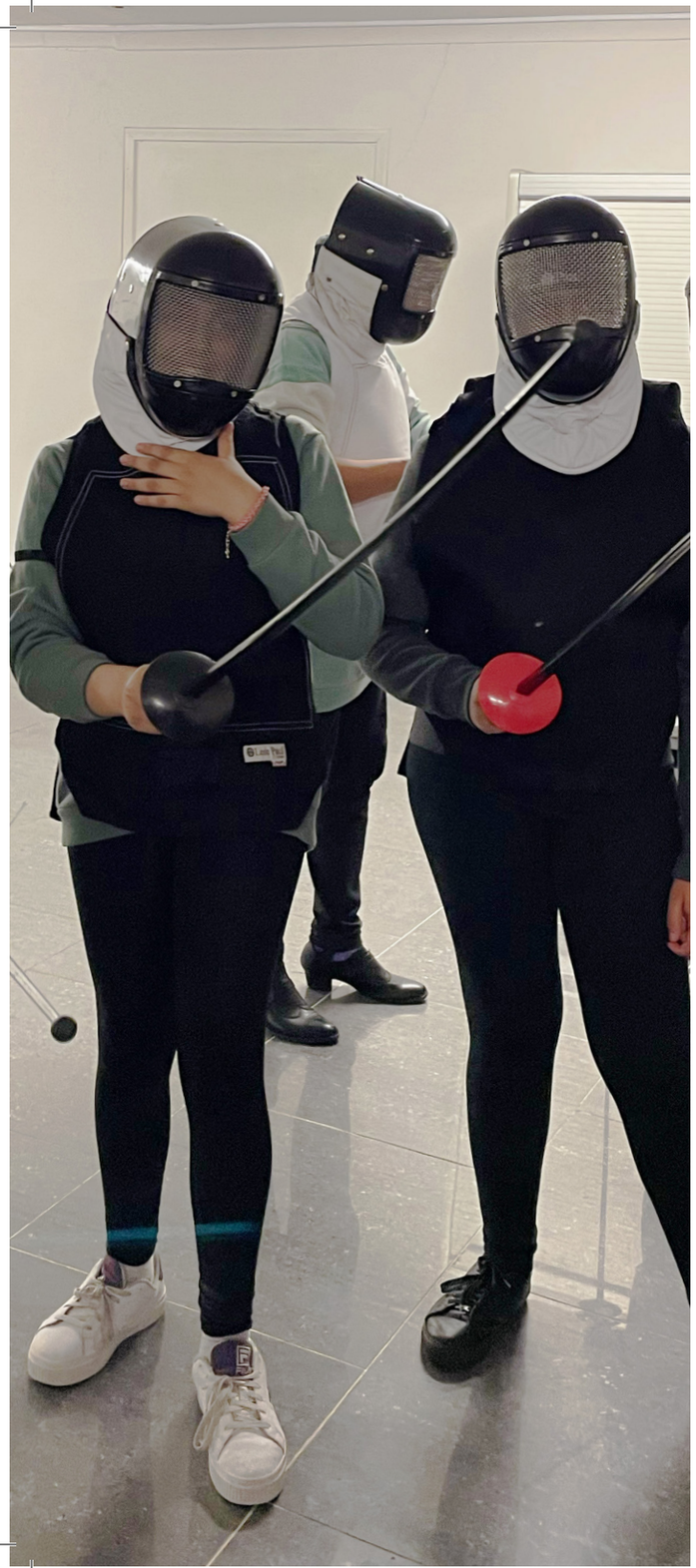
HSBC Bank PLC

465 Bethnal Green Road,
Bethnal Green, London E2 9QW

Independent examiner

Anthony Epton
BA FCA CTA FCIE

Goldwins Chartered accountants
75 Maygrove Road, West Hampstead,
London NW6 2EG



Report of the trustees

The Trustees are required by law to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which show a true and fair view of the financial activities of the company and of its financial position at the end of that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and with applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on an ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accountancy records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the company and to 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.

The principle objects of the charity during the year are stated in the Legal & Admin section of this report. The trustees are aware of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit reporting as set out in Section 17 Charities Act 2011. The Trustees believe that the charity achieves a public benefit as detailed elsewhere in this report.

Approved by and signed on behalf oh the trustees, on 27 November 2023:

Alia Alzougbi

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Maslaha for the year ended 31 March 2023

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Anthony Epton BA FCA CTA FCIE

Goldwins Chartered accountants
75 Maygrove Road, West Hampstead,
London NW6 2EG

27 November 2023

Accounts

Maslaha
Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	**500**	**1,000**	**1,500**	562
Charitable activities	4	**169,000**	**355,805**	**524,805**	554,239
Other trading activities	5	**2,300**	**-**	**2,300**	3,675
Total income		**171,800**	**356,805**	**528,605**	558,476
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	**67,891**	**272,262**	**340,153**	376,428
Total expenditure		**67,891**	**272,262**	**340,153**	376,428
Net income for the year	7	**103,909**	**84,543**	**188,452**	182,048
Transfers between funds		**-**	**-**	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**103,909**	**84,543**	**188,452**	182,048
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		**278,080**	**277,263**	**555,343**	373,295
Total funds carried forward		**381,989**	**361,806**	**743,795**	555,343

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 16 to the financial statements.

Maslaha

Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	**12**		-		-
Current assets:					
Debtors	**13**	**55,000**		49,991	
Cash at bank and in hand		**699,265**		514,722	
		754,265		564,713	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**14**	**10,470**		9,370	
Net current assets			**743,795**		555,343
Total net assets	**15**		**743,795**		555,343
Funds	**16**				
Restricted funds			**361,806**		277,263
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds		**381,989**		278,080	
Total unrestricted funds			**381,989**		278,080
Total funds			**743,795**		555,343

For the year ending 31 March 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.The directors acknowledge their responsibility for.complying with the requirements of the Act withrespect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companiessubject to the small companies regime.

27 November 2023.

Approved by the trustees on ……
and signed on their behalf by:

Alia Alzougbi
Trustee

Company registration no. 7309979

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

Maslaha
Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	2023	2022
Cash flows from operating activities:		**£**	£
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	**a**	**184,543**	171,639
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Sale/ (purchase) of fixed assets		-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		**184,543**	171,639
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		**514,722**	343,083
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	**b**	**699,265**	514,722

a) Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	**188,452**	182,048
Depreciation	**-**	-
Decrease / (Increase) in debtors	**(5,009)**	(4,781)
Increase in creditors	**1,100**	(5,628)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	**184,543**	171,639

b) Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	At 1 April 2022	Cash flows	Other changes	At 31 March 2023
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Cash at bank and in hand	**514,722**	**184,543**	**-**	**699,265**
Total cash and cash equivalents	**514,722**	**184,543**	**-**	**699,265**

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

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 - effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

b) Reconciliation with previously Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP)

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was required.

c) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

d) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. Income received in advance for the provision of specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is a treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

e) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

f) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

g) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted 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 Accounting policies (continued)

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise of trading costs and the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 6.

j) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Computer equipment	on 3 years straight line basis

k) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

l) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

m) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022 Total Funds
	£	£	£
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	562	-	562
Charitable activities	181,665	372,574	554,239
Other income	3,675	-	3,675
Total income	185,902	372,574	558,476
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities:	46,983	329,445	376,428
Total expenditure	46,983	329,445	376,428
Net income before gains / (losses) on investments	138,919	43,129	182,048
Net gains / (losses) on investments	-	-	-
Net income	138,919	43,129	182,048
Transfers between funds	-	-	-
Net income before other recognised gains and losses	138,919	43,129	182,048
Net movement in funds	138,919	43,129	182,048
Total funds brought forward	139,161	234,134	373,295
	278,080	277,263	555,343

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Restricted Funds**	**2023 Total Funds**	2022 Total Funds
	£	**£**	**£**	£
Donations	**500**	**1,000**	**1,500**	562
	500	**1,000**	**1,500**	562

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Income earned from charitable activities				
Grants				
Pears Foundation	**50,000**	**-**	**50,000**	50,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust	**-**	**10,250**	**10,250**	9,750
Sports England	**-**	**63,157**	**63,157**	39,033
Esmee Fairbairn	**65,000**	**-**	**65,000**	50,000
Tudor Trust	**-**	**-**	**-**	50,000
Lloyds Foundation	**-**	**130,441**	**130,441**	174,960
Joseph Rowntree	**29,000**		**29,000**	11,665
National Lottery	**-**	**49,991**	**49,991**	99,982
Baring Foundation	**-**	**1,954**	**1,954**	48,849
National Lottery - SWR	**-**	**100,012**	**100,012**	-
AB Charitable Trust	**25,000**		**25,000**	20,000
Total income from charitable activities	**169,000**	**355,805**	**524,805**	554,239

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Consultancy fees	**2,300**	**-**	**2,300**	3,675
	2,300	**-**	**2,300**	3,675

6 Analysis of expenditure

	Charitable activities	**2023 Total**	2022 Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	**268,864**	**268,864**	260,457
Direct cost			
Depreciation	**-**	**-**	-
Project costs	**45,190**	**45,190**	95,114
Publicity & Reports	**300**	**300**	475
Support cost			
Office costs	**19,644**	**19,644**	7,058
Governance cost			
Bank charges	**130**	**130**	144
Examiner's fees	**1,100**	**1,100**	980
Accountancy fees	**4,925**	**4,925**	12,200
Total expenditure 2023	**340,153**	**340,153**	376,428
Total expenditures 2022	376,428	376,428	

Of the total expenditure, £67,891 was unrestricted (2022: £46,983) and £272,262 was restricted (2022: £329,445).

Analysis of expenditure-prior year

	Charitable activities	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	260,457	260,457	247,929
Direct cost			
Depreciation	-	-	709
Project costs	95,114	95,114	87,280
Publicity & Reports	475	475	3,780
Support cost			
Office costs	7,058	7,058	4,309
Telephone		-	-
IT support		-	-
Governance cost			
Bank charges	144	144	77
Examiner's fees	980	980	885
Accountancy fees	12,200	12,200	8,313
Total expenditure 2022	376,428	376,428	353,282
Total expenditures 2021	353,282	353,282	

7 Net incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging / crediting:

	2023	2022
	£	**£**
Independent Examiner's fees net of VAT	**900**	833

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	**£**
Salaries and wages	**238,633**	225,832
Social security costs	**20,926**	23,058
Staff pension costs	**8,132**	9,872
Other staff costs	**1,173**	1,695
	268,864	260,457

The total employee benefits including pension contributions of the key management personnel were £81,955 (2022: £79,185).

The following number of employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension) during the year between:

	2023	2022
£60,000 -£69,000	**-**	1
£70,000 -£79,000	**1**	-

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2022: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2022: £nil).

No trustees received any payment or reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs.

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Charitable activity	**3.0**	3.0
Support	**1.5**	1.5
Governance	**0.5**	0.5
	5.0	5.0

10 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

11 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Office Equipment	**Total**
	£	**£**
Cost		
At the start of the year	2,824	**2,824**
Additions in year	-	-
Disposals in year	(2,824)	-
At the end of the year	-	**-**
Depreciation		
At the start of the year	2,824	**2,824**
Charge for the year	-	**-**
Eliminated on disposal	(2,824)	-
At the end of the year	-	**-**
Net book value		
At the end of the year	**-**	**-**
At the start of the year	-	-

13 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accured income	**55,000**	49,991
	55,000	49,991

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Taxation & social security	**7,689**	3,473
Pension liabilities	**881**	497
Accruals	**1,900**	5,400
	10,470	9,370

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General Unrestricted funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Net current assets	**381,989**	**-**	**361,806**	**743,795**
Net assets at the end of the year	**381,989**	-	**361,806**	**743,795**

Analysis of net assets between funds-prior year

	General Unrestricted funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Net current assets	278,080	-	277,263	555,343
Net assets at the end of the year	278,080	-	277,263	555,343

16 Movements in funds

	At the start of the year	Incoming resources & gains	Outgoing resources & losses	Transfers	At the end of the year
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:					
Barrow Cadbury	**3,139**	**10,250**	**(13,389)**	**-**	**-**
National Lottery - SWR	**-**	**100,012**	**(46,285)**	**-**	**53,727**
National Lottery	**79,968**	**50,991**	**(60,211)**	**-**	**70,748**
Evens Foundation	**10,653**	**-**	**(10,653)**	**-**	**-**
Sports England	**1,184**	**63,157**	**(23,265)**	**-**	**41,076**
Porticus Foundation	**11,260**	**-**	**(11,260)**	**-**	**-**
Lloyds Foundation	**124,210**	**130,441**	**(89,076)**	**-**	**165,575**
Baring Foundation	**46,849**	**1,954**	**(18,123)**	**-**	**30,680**
Total restricted funds	**277,263**	**356,805**	**(272,262)**	**-**	**361,806**
General funds					
Total Unrestricted Funds	**278,080**	**171,800**	**(67,891)**	**-**	**381,989**
Total unrestricted funds	**278,080**	**171,800**	**(67,891)**	**-**	**381,989**
Total funds including pension fund	**555,343**	**528,605**	**(340,153)**	**-**	**743,795**

Movements in funds-prior year	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Barrow Cadbury	19,445	9,750	(26,056)	-	3,139
Comic Relief Recovery	7,449	-	(7,449)	-	-
Covid-19 Response	17,737	-	(17,737)	-	-
National Lottery	59,233	99,982	(79,247)	-	79,968
Evens Foundation	21,000	-	(10,347)	-	10,653
Sports England	-	39,033	(37,849)	-	1,184
Porticus Foundation	65,748	-	(54,488)	-	11,260
Lloyds Foundation	30,540	174,960	(81,290)	-	124,210
Comic Relief/GLA	12,982	-	(12,982)	-	-
Baring Foundation	-	48,849	(2,000)	-	46,849
Total restricted funds	234,134	372,574	(329,445)	-	277,263
General funds					
Total Unrestricted Funds	139,161	185,902	(46,983)	-	278,080
Total unrestricted funds	139,161	185,902	(46,983)	-	278,080
Total funds including pension fund	373,295	558,476	(376,428)	-	555,343

Barrow Cadbury
The purpose of this grant is to improving vital services for Muslims in the prison system and highlighting systemic racism.

Porticus Foundation
Developing Maslaha methodologies and tools to challenge educational inequality in UK primary schools.

Baring Foundation
Using legal tools to highlight the discrimination faced by Muslims in prison.

Sports England
This is a continuation of Muslim girl Fence in the context of inactivity and economic disadvantage.

Lloyds Foundation
Improving vital services for Muslims in the prison system and highlighting systemic racism.

National Lottery- continuation of the Muslim Girls Fence project and National Lottery
Connecting communities to schools

17 Operating lease commitments

At the balance sheet date, the charity had no financial commmitment under non-cancellable operating leases.

18 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for the year (2022: none).

Maslaha was incorporated as a limited liability company (7309979) on July 9th 2010 and was registered as a charity in England and Wales (1139560) on December 29th 2010.

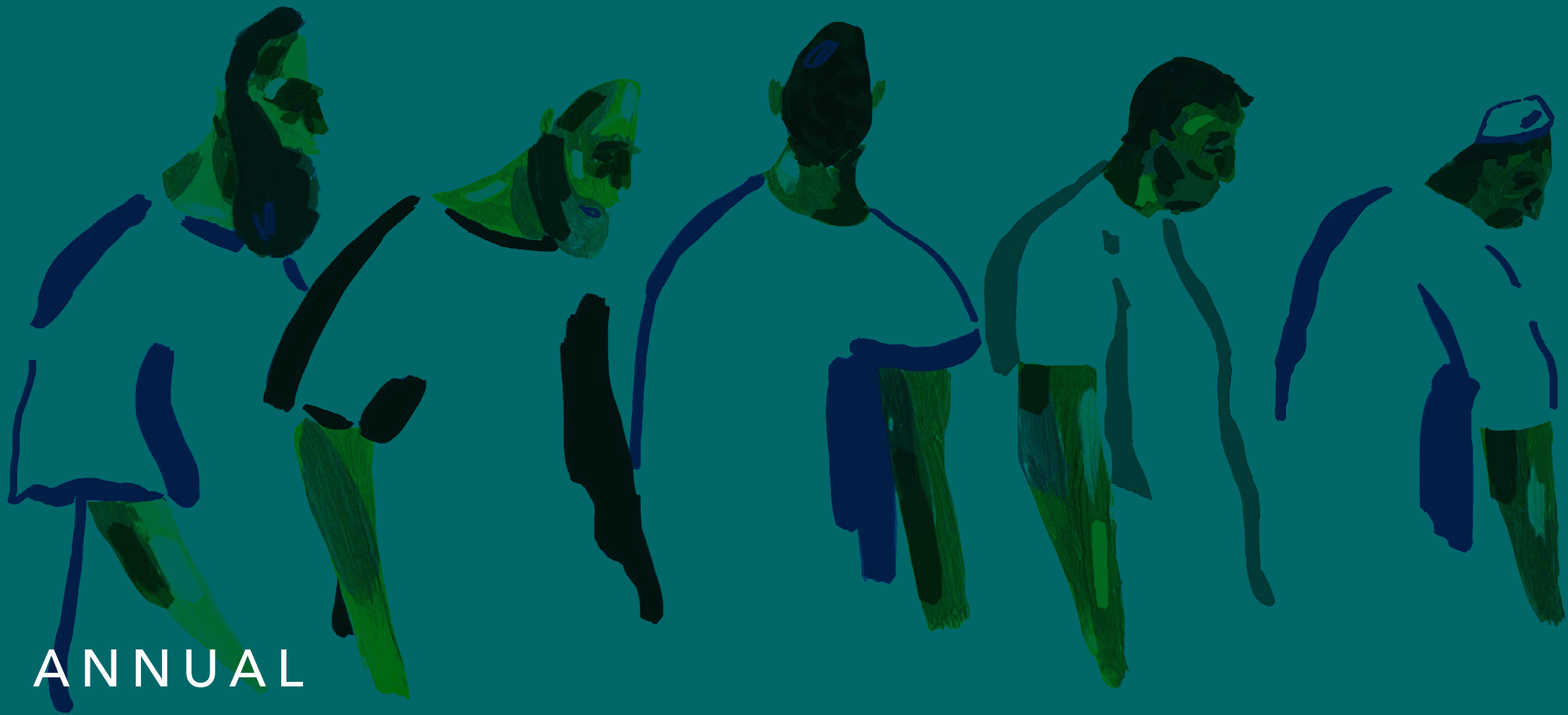
maslaha

MASLAHA

England & Wales - Charity number 1139560

Accounts

maslaha



ANNUAL REPORT 2021–2022

The reporting period for the annual report is April 2021-April 2022.

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Foreword

Small hands adjusted their helmets and eagerly grasped their plastic foils. The instructors delivered precise instructions as parents and carers promised their children they would also get a chance to fence. The queuing system seemed negligible at times, perhaps a sign of enthusiasm and the novel sight of children fencing under the gaze of Nelson.

Trafalgar Square has probably never witnessed 400 young people, largely of colour, over the course of 6 hours, learn fencing moves as part of the Mayor of London's Eid celebrations.

For Maslaha and our partner Britsh Fencing, it was a great way to showcase our project Muslim Girls Fence in this public space after a couple of years of lockdowns and the subsequent restrictions on gathering.

The event was also important because it allowed young people to take part in a sport that may not be normally accessible. Not because of a lack of talent or skill or desire on their part, but because of societal obstacles such as poverty and racism. The struggle we as a society face is to how to practically change these conditions and in the interim create the circumstances for communities to still reach their potential.

We believe that with our many partners it is possible to trace the outline of future possibilities that are nourishing for our communities and allow them to fulfill their potential.

Maslaha's work is about creating practical interventions that are rooted in communities but have the scope for wider application. It is work that moves from witnessing and reporting on inequalities and racism to strategic and tangible practice.

For instance, Muslim Girls Fence is now focusing on the impact of racism on the mental health of young people by building a resource that can be used by individuals, therapists and schools. We know that this is further complicated by the impact of Covid which has stunted progression and development through school life.

Our project Schools with Roots (SWR) adapted quickly to the pandemic, creating online resources that could be used by schools with their communities. The resources and the learning from schools is now being used as a way to provide training for PGCE students at the University of East London. These education resources have also been used by councils with refugee families in Norfolk, Rochdale, Bradford, and Milton Keynes.

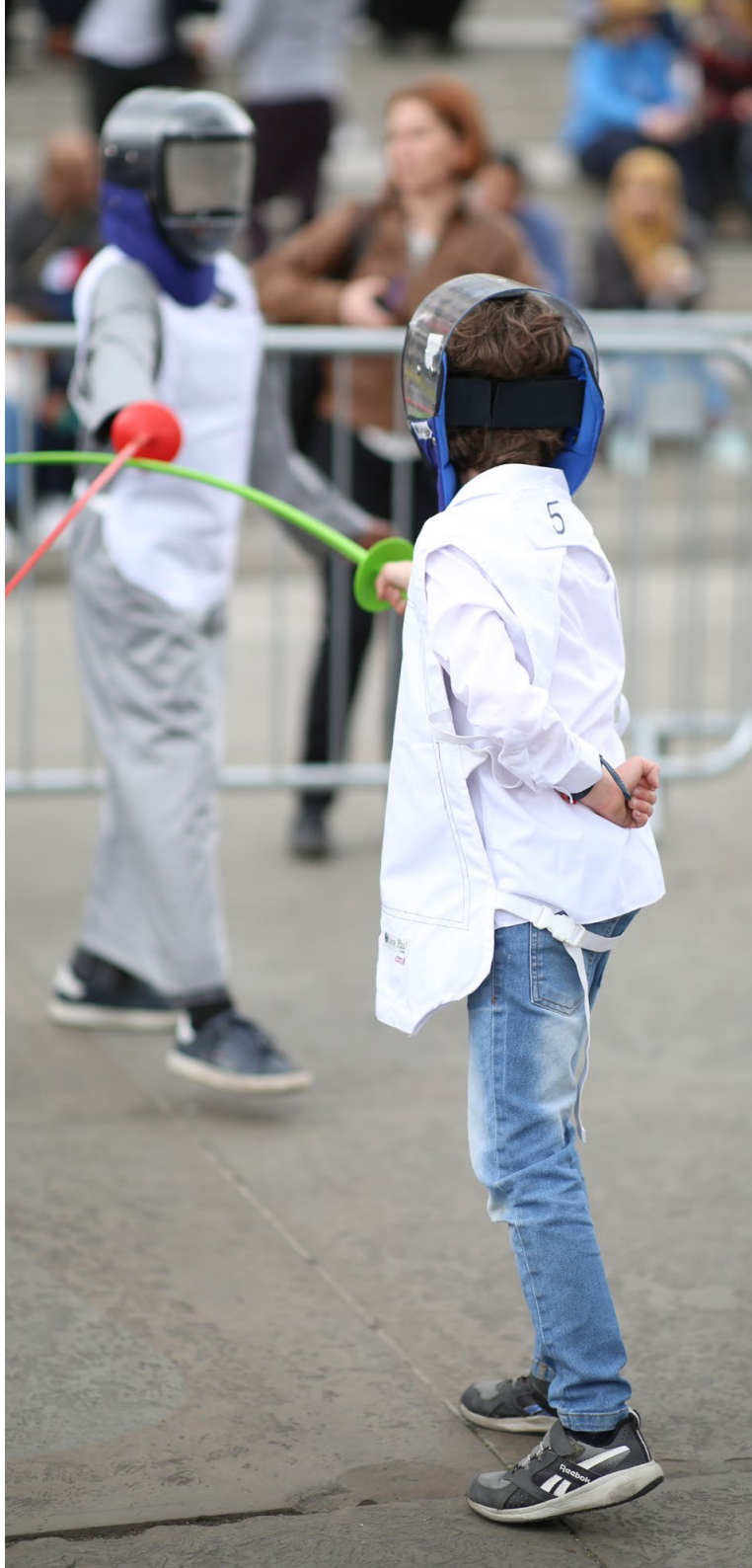
SWR is continuing to expand the number of schools we work with and improving how they meet the needs of their pupils and local communities, through training, resources and building long-term relationships.

Our criminal justice programme continues to work with larger charities such as the Samaritans and Pact to improve vital services for Muslims in prison. Services that focus on mental health, maintaining relationships with families and education.

We are also producing new research that gives a more accurate picture of the impact of prisons on individuals and communities, as well the ingrained racism within the system.

Our work in the arts continues through Mfest, a multi-arts festival of Muslim knowledge and creativity, produced in partnership with the British Library. Following a successful series of events in the last financial year, we ran a Writer's Lab for Muslim artists. This allowed the cohort to explore different genres in partnership with Soho Theatre, Spread the Word, Arvon Foundation, We Are Bridge, Hajar Press and number of authors, screen writers and graphic novelists.

We believe that with our many partners it is possible to trace the outline of future possibilities that are nourishing for our communities and allow them to fulfill their potential.



Why Maslaha?

The past few years have seen a heightened focus on Muslim communities and Islam across the UK and abroad. The combination of terrorist attacks, war, political decisions, and social deprivation have all shaped with an intense pace how Muslims are seen and thought of in the public imagination. It has been out of this difficult period that Maslaha began as an idea to eventually become an independent organisation.

Maslaha translates from the Arabic as 'for the common good' and this is the driving force behind all our work.

Despite this tense history our overwhelming experience has been that our partners from every sector of society are committed to, and believe, that it is possible to create empowered Muslim communities. Maslaha translates from the Arabic as' for the common good' and this is the driving force behind all our work. We tackle the most immediate social issues affecting Muslim communities today as well as creating a greater understanding of Islam from a cultural and historical perspective.

The name Maslaha is also important because it is about changing the language that is used about Muslims and Islam. We need to expand our language and vocabulary if we are to tackle some of our biggest issues, and if we are to give communities the space to think for themselves and speak on their own terms. Muslims represent the largest minority faith group in the UK and constitute an ethnically diverse population with a very young age profile. A significant proportion of this population lives in deprived inner-city areas, and Muslims have higher levels of unemployment, economic inactivity, ill health, educational achievement, and poor housing conditions than all other faith groups.

Our health work, for example, recognizes that Muslim communities experience disproportionately high health inequalities around conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, pregnancy and depression. A contributing factor to this is that both health services and communities are not equipped to appropriately tackle the root causes of these issues and engage with the complex realities of all patients' lives.

The way we approach this in our health interventions is to create resources for both patients and practitioners that combine faith advice and cultural references with medical advice. We then embed these resources in the everyday spaces of communities, as well as nationally. By doing this we have reached over 19,500 patients and health professionals and our resources are endorsed by NHS trusts across the country, the Royal College of GPs (RCGP) and medical curricula in universities.

One of Maslaha's strengths is bringing together a diverse mix of people within and between each project: supporters and partners include the young and the elderly, nurses and teachers, artists and academics, imams and historians, policy makers and school pupils, and those who do have a faith and those who do not. Our projects straddle a number of sectors and this unusual mix of people has led to new networks of collaboration and new perspectives on how social issues can be tackled.

Our strategy

Maslaha's working strategy puts communities at the centre of making change happen. Our vision – that Muslim communities are empowered to overcome social inequalities – can only be truly achieved through working closely with communities, and by recognising their role as active proponents of that change. Our strategy will guide our work over the coming years and enable us to effectively work towards our objectives of reducing levels of deprivation amongst Muslim communities and challenging stereotypes.

Maslaha has produced award-winning and ground-breaking resources, driven by an ability to engage with communities, service providers, and decision-makers alike, to reach across perceived institutional divides, and to empower and enable motivated individuals and organisations to pursue good ideas based on a lived understanding of particular needs.

This approach informs all of our work, and is key to Maslaha's ability to implement our strategy effectively.

Our Areas of Work

HEALTH: Muslim communities frequently have trouble accessing health services. A lack of shared language between patients, communities and health practitioners contributes to challenges in accessing support, and that support being relevant and appropriate.

EDUCATION: There are high levels of underachievement and disengagement among young Muslims, which are linked to a lack of appropriate support and culturally relevant curriculums and impacted by negative stereotypes and misconceptions that surround Islam and Muslim communities, and their relationship with wider society.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE: The number of Muslims in prison has more than doubled over the past 15 years and their experience, treatment and outcomes in prison are consistently more negative compared to non-Muslims. Negative stereotyping has been shown to act as a barrier to opportunity and engagement with services for Muslims in prison.

GENDER: Muslim women and girls face complex discrimination that arises from the intersections of their faith, race, gender and other identities. This in turn creates complex challenges and barriers for them across society including in areas such as employment and education. For example Muslim women are 70% more likely to be unemployed than white Christian women.

Our Strategic Goals

1. Educating public service providers and wider society to better understand Muslim and other marginalised communities.
2. Influencing systemic change and replicating local success at a national level.
3. Educating and empowering Muslim communities.
4. Building a well-functioning organisation with financial and organisational sustainability.

We carry out our strategic objectives by working across three defined areas: practice, policy and public imagination. Each social issue will require a different mix of these, but by working across all of them we ensure our work can achieve real and lasting impact.

Practice – working practically with communities at a grassroots local level.

Policy – changing practice at a local level can only be sustained by sharing our learning at a strategic level and ensuring that this informs future policy decisions.

Public imagination – Influencing, and where possible shaping, public debates and media narratives. We combine creativity with everyday action and engagement to find new ways to connect and communicate.

Case Studies

1. Educating public service providers and wider society to better understand Muslim and other marginalised communities

Muslim Girls Fence

Muslim Girls Fence continued to deliver through the pandemic and lockdowns and has finally returned to face-to-face delivery in communities and schools this year.

MAYOR OF LONDON'S EID IN THE SQUARE CELEBRATIONS

In May 2022, we were invited by the Mayor of London's office to run a MGF fencing session at Trafalgar Square as part of the Mayor of London's Eid in the square celebrations. We had over 400 young people try out fencing, with the event raising the profile of the project significantly.

WOMEN OF THE WORLD (WOW) FESTIVAL

In March 2022, MGF was featured at Women of the World (WOW) festival at Southbank as part of International Women's Day. The festival attracts hundreds of people over the 2 days. On the day we were there, there were roughly 400 people.

MGF delivered a powerful performance, combining poetry delivered by Rakaya Esime Fetuga with a fencing exhibition.

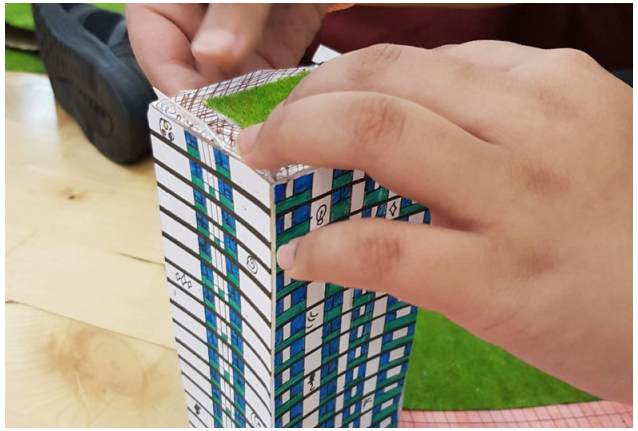
WOMEN OF THE WORLD (WOW) SOUNDS

Similarly, on October 2021 on National Poetry Day, we curated the artist line up and poetry performances for WOW Sounds with poets Rakaya Esime Fetuga and Zahra Ahmad. The two artists performed individual sets filmed by EartH (Evolutionary Arts Hackney), a progressive and essential multi-arts space for the 21st Century.

MULBERRY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS – UTOPIAN MODEL OF TOWER HAMLETS

Over the autumn and winter months in 2021 and early January 2022, MGF were excited to be back in schools and running workshops in person with Mulberry School for Girls.

The creative parts of the workshops enabled the pupils to explore what wellbeing means on an individual basis and what this can mean for the wider community.



This involved creating a Utopian model of Tower Hamlets that looked at access to green spaces, affordable housing and learning spaces that are not simply focused on schools.

There were also conversations about obstacles to sport and the specific inequalities that Muslim girls faced based on their gender, ethnicity, and religion. Importantly, we were keen to equip pupils with a safe space to have those conversations while engaging in a creative process through the workshops and a physical activity – the fencing.

Conversations focused on how they saw themselves and their local area in Tower Hamlets, versus how others saw them.

For the pupils their neighbourhood was:

- Safe
- Lots of minorities
- Less racism
- Lots of clinics and hospitals
- Less activities

Tower Hamlets
.I see lots of people
.I smell pollution
.I hear cars
.I feel
.I hear
There are alot fun places such arks, Shops.
Sweden
it bad for the earth.
broad
broad

"[...] their poems help other people understand their pain of being trapped when they are called names and insulted for who they are"

In terms of how they felt they were seen as Muslims by others:

- Terrorists
- Muslim women=oppressed
- Scary
- Uneducated
- Strange
- Most people think all Muslims are Arab

The girls found the creative poetry element of the project to be very powerful, expressing the following:

"Poetry is a useful tool because it's a way for people to have more empathy for someone and it's a way to send messages to lots of people"

"I think it's good because their poems help the other people understand their pain of being trapped when they are called names and insulted for who they are"

Similarly, the girls also found creating the utopian models to be very powerful, expressing the following:

The art shows "how communities feel", reflecting on Green for Grenfell "This is a very cool idea as anyone can do it and it brings communities together, it's overall an amazing way to express your thoughts (without being targeted) for lots to see"

"This method is good because it's anonymous, powerful messages"

"Necessary to show people what's happening in the world and trying to get people's attention so that they can change their ways"

When asked, "What is your favourite thing about Muslim Girls Fence so far?", the girls responded:

"The activities we do about wellbeing, discrimination, and equality. I also like when we learn fencing"

"Learning about fencing and how to thrust and lunge"

"I like that we get to learn both fencing and our creative session"

"The fun (community) activities we do as they make us think more about our ideal place and ways we could improve the community"

COMMUNITY FUND
How do structural inequalities impact pupils' mental health and wellbeing?
Written by Maryam Abdullah, Alaa Alsaraji & Shaheen Kasmani,
muslim girls fence

REPORT LAUNCH – HOW DO STRUCTURAL INEQUALITIES IMPACT PUPILS' MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING?

We collated all our learnings and research gathered from psychotherapists, teachers and youth groups into a report that is accessible to read, understand and digest, (not too academic in language) into a report that was launched in September 2021. The report also includes resources for teachers and school staff around the topic of wellbeing in school, the impacts of racism and islamophobia on mental wellbeing, and pointers for teachers to take into consideration regarding their students' experiences and realities.

The report received coverage in Grazia magazine and was also featured in a new book focusing on social justice and equity in sports and physical education in schools. The book is targeted for educators and is entitled *Pedagogies of Social Justice in Physical Education and Youth Sport* by Dr Shrehan Lynch. We received positive reviews from people in the mental and education field.

Comments included from Dr Shrehan Lynch:

"This report will be invaluable to schoolteachers, counsellors, and community workers."

Launching and sharing our report helped us to raise awareness of the issue, build the conversation and strengthen relationships with schools, teachers, and others working in the field.

Through the report launch, learning and practice was shared widely within the education sector, establishing networks for future promotion of MGF work. For instance, the report was shared more widely with the National Bureau of Children and the Global Learning London, an education charity, who have included it in their teacher training and learning packs for schools. They work nationally and in Europe.

Importantly, the report we published also created a safe space for Black and brown teachers to talk about their experiences of racism in school and some of the obstacles Muslim girls face.

This is an extract from our report:

"Another teacher told us that one of her white students asked her in a creative writing class, when writing a fight scene, could his character say "Allahu Akbar". His reasoning was that it was what he had heard on television. The teacher reflected that this white student's response was part of an environment that would discourage Muslim students from talking openly about their experiences. They are wary and hesitant, especially if they are the minority in the classroom, because they are aware of how prevalent mainstream perspectives about Islam and anti-Muslim attitudes can be adopted by their classmates."

Impacts of structural racism and systemic inequalities are often overlooked and not included when considering the mental health of young people.

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCE

Our current focus for the project is the impact of racism and Islamophobia on mental health and wellbeing in young people.

Many large charities and mental health organisations are rightly focussing on the mental health of young people but impacts of structural racism and systemic inequalities are often overlooked and not included.

Therefore, we have been working with schools (such as Mulberry School for Girls and Harlington School), teachers, students, therapists, psychotherapists, and mental health professionals to put together a mental health resource that aims to raise awareness, share experiences, and bring this conversation into the mainstream, while also being accessible to read, understand and digest.

The resource involves collating all our learnings and research from the work we have done with MGF to date, as well as the ongoing work (e.g., school workshops, community events and interviews with project participants, coaches, artists, academics, mental health and medical professionals and activists around the subject of wellbeing and mental health) into a mental health resource that we are excited to launch around International Women's Day in March 2023.

As part of this resource, we plan to also include resources for teachers and school staff around the topic of wellbeing in school, the impacts of racism for staff and students, and pointers for teachers to take into consideration regarding their students' experiences and realities.

Additionally, the resource allows for the project to have a wider influence and impact as schools and teachers who may not be engaging in direct project delivery, will be aware of our learnings and methods, rather than just the school we're delivering the project in.

Likewise, on a wider systemic level, we will share our resource and learnings to influence policy/practice, so that mainstream mental health organisations, educationalists and policy makers have a better understanding of the experience of mental health for Muslim girls and can create a more sensitive, tailored service to meet their specific needs, in a climate where young Muslim women tell us they feel both alienated within the school and othered by society at large.

Tower Hamlets

I think they should have more Islam places.

I think there should be more hospitals.

A place where we celebrate religions all

more art displayed and museums.

I think the hospitals should charge less money.

I would like to see more grassy areas.

I think we should start driving less.

I would like to see more healthy places.

I think they

There should be more shops like the Islam. it relies to buy and sell used clothes for homless

areas

parks (big ones / dings (houses)

Make the streets a more beautyful place.

outdoor and rooftop swimming pools.

a more beautyful area.

More sports stadiums

An event where you can sample food and whure doesn't cost much.

Places where we can remember people who changed the world and inspire

More care homes.

More places where homeless people can, eat, work and live.

Teacher's Should get paid more like 20 quid an hour.

Who is it for?

Everyone!

What happens in the space?

There are people who can shop and have fun outside.

How do you want people to feel in the space?

I want people to feel like its home and enjoy it!

A 'must watch film for educators… created for schools, this also applies to any org/individual working with families and communities'.

Schools with Roots

CONTINUED FUNDING

This year we were granted three years of National Lottery funding to continue our work on Schools with Roots – with a specific focus on working directly with families and communities in London, Bradford, and Coventry.

The funding will allow us to better equip families and communities to both support their children's learning at school, and to feel able to participate in the life of their children's school, whether that is through helping to shape the knowledge that is taught in the classroom, or through becoming involved in the wider school community, by for example creating a community of parents who can advocate for themselves and get their voices heard. We want families, many of whom do not have English as a first language, to feel able to navigate a system that marginalises and does not support them.

The funding will allow us to work in depth with three schools over three years, working closely with families and communities, continuing to produce accessible multi-lingual resources to help families who do not have English as a first language to support their children's learning. We have started our work in Sandringham Primary School, Newham, and will begin work with St Elizabeth's Primary School in Coventry in September.

ANTI-RACISM FILM FROM DAY 1

We have had a really positive response to our Anti-Racism from Day 1 film (produced in partnership with Liz Pemberton). This animated film was launched in December 2021 and aims to educate schools on how they can work to be anti-racist institutions – offering ten ways schools can take an anti-racist approach to engaging with families and communities, so all children can thrive at school and beyond. It has been described as a 'very important 10-minute watch' and a 'must watch film for educators… created for schools this also applies to any org/individual working with families and communities'.

We have used the film in our teacher training sessions with UEL trainee teachers and we are looking forward to using the film in trainings with teachers as we move into the next phase of the project, as a result of our National Lottery Funding.

Health

Since the end of last year, we have been talking to CW+, the official charity of Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, including its hospitals and clinics, about a possible partnership focusing on young people and mental health.

The Trust's programme, 'Best For You', works with a range of local communities (e.g., Maslaha) and digital and voluntary sector organisations to provide the best possible clinical and holistic care for young people and their families. We're working with the Trust both this year and next to promote existing resources e.g., MGF mental health resources, as well as designing new products, and helping with the design and communication of new Capital projects.

Criminal Justice

EDUCATING PUBLIC SERVICE PROVIDERS

Over the past year, we have continued partnerships with the Samaritans, PACT and Prisoner Education Trust to improve their services across the prison estate. Such services include prison helplines, listening services, as well as mental health, family support, and education. Our support helps these charities ensure their wide range of services are more accessible to Muslims - by adapting their existing access pathways, educating staff and volunteers on the needs and experiences of Muslim prisoners, as well as developing new, tailored services.

For example, we have developed an education programme plan with Prisoner Education Trust to provide a learning gateway for Muslims. Based on PET's distance learning approach, a pilot will explore an exciting new approach to delivering courses with the prison Imams. This is an innovative approach to engage Muslim prisoners in learning, help develop new skills and critical thinking skills, as well as improve motivation for further study.

We also produced an in-depth resource on 'Islam, religious practices, and prison life'. The resource is designed to provide services with information about Muslims and their experiences in prison. It helps staff and volunteers to better understand Islam and provides greater insight into the impact of Islamophobia on Muslims in prison, as well as the barriers they may come up against practising their religion and accessing services, which in turn supports staff to feel more confident and equipped to meet their needs. This resource has been provided to Pact and Samaritans and is being disseminated amongst their staff and volunteers with positive feedback.

In a new area for the criminal justice programme, we have been working with other organisations to deliver mental health services to Muslims. This is based on the extensive research we have done on the impact of prison life, discrimination, and Islamophobia on Muslim prisoners' well-being, and builds on Maslaha's widely used Talking from the Heart approach which explored mental health and therapy through combining medical and faith advice. We're working with clinical professions and grassroots organisations to provide mental health support to people affected by the criminal justice system and create a safe space for the provision of therapy to those who have been released from prison. This is to be delivered via Muslim therapists to help gain the trust of Muslim service users and ensure understanding of their culture and experiences.

CAPTURING THE PUBLIC IMAGINATION

We continue to document and disseminate evidence based on real life stories to engage the voluntary sector and wider public. As broader societal representations of Muslims including in the media often play into racist and simplistic stereotypes of Islam and Muslims, it has been important to raise awareness of Muslims' experience of the criminal justice system. We have shared audio clips that allow the public to hear directly from

people affected by Islamophobia, other forms of discrimination and broader issues in the criminal justice system. For example, the impact of Covid lockdown on people's mental health in prison, and the inequalities faced when accessing vital services within prison for Muslims. These are issues that are often overlooked as a concern by other stakeholders.

We've also used comics, art, and podcasts to provide a creative and engaging angle, and a series of short briefings providing critical analysis on issues that impact Muslims in prison. These have provided an accessible and quick tool to highlight the inequalities facing Muslims which often fall under the radar. This includes responding to prison inspectorate reports that overlook the disparities for Muslims in accessing communal worship, the human cost of racism, and evident disproportionality in the criminal justice system.

The realities of being Muslim in prison from our interviews:

- **Increased surveillance**: A Muslim staff member in prison shared his experience of being scrutinised for having several Muslims prisoners attend his workshop. He was asked to write an incidence report as having too many Muslims attending was a 'cause for concern.'
- **Situations out of your control**: a Muslim prisoner highlighted how incidents outside of prison such as the murder of Lee Rigby and the London Bridge attacks had a lasting effect on his experience in prison. It showed the different ways in which Muslims are discriminated for incidents which are completely out of their control.

2. Influencing systemic change and replicating local success at a national level

Muslim Girls Fence

IMPORTANCE OF WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

The partnership between British Fencing and Maslaha continues to be recognized as a model of good practice.

This has led to wider influencing with the Levelling Up Agenda and Sport England, where we were asked to partner and share expert consultation on girls' participation in sport with Women in Sport for Sport England's strategy consultation, as well as help advice on their strategic development of local area investments based of the success of Muslim Girls Fence.

Moreover, through the project running in the Midlands, and working with our incredible coaches and partners, Ladywood Leisure centre in Birmingham continues to provide us a free venue space for as long as it is needed. This is not only unheard of in terms of local provision, but it is also an incredible way of making the project more accessible to more people in the local Birmingham area. As well as hosting an art and photography exhibition from the Birmingham project in the leisure centre itself, it shows that untraditional spaces and untraditional relationships are what's needed to remove some of the systemic and structural barriers to sport and physical activity and to create safe spaces for marginalised and racialised communities.

The MGF community project in Birmingham continues to receive ongoing praise from not only the participants, but the centre manager too.

Ladywood Leisure Centre Manager, Dawn Page:

"The Muslim Girls Fence project is an integral part of our inclusive provision at Ladywood Leisure Centre. MGF has enabled us to reach what is traditionally 'a hard-to-reach group'. With many barriers to participation in today's society, without this provision in Ladywood Leisure Centre, females from ethnically diverse backgrounds would definitely not have even considered engaging in physical activity. I am extremely proud of what has been achieved in Ladywood since 2019. The

project has been a huge success, the coach (Binni) and the partnership between British Fencing and Maslaha have to be commended for this fantastic initiative. In Ladywood, MGF has certainly changed the lives of ladies that previously were in-active, isolated, and sometimes the forgotten sector of community. The MGF model is sustainable and without question enhances leisure provision for local citizens."

MGF participants at the Ladywood Leisure Centre:

"The ladies fencing sessions has be great fun. And I have benefited greatly. Our coach has been very encouraging, patient and so lovely to be taught by. This particular group has given me the opportunity to take part and enjoy a sport which is both challenging, meets my interests and has helped me to gain confidence. I am looking forward to continuing and benefiting from this."

"I have been attending classes since September 2021 and have absolutely loved every session. The sessions have benefitted my health as I feel more active and motivated to increase my fitness but also, I feel more confident and eager to learn more. More importantly, through these sessions, I have been able to interact with women from various backgrounds/ ages, I would otherwise not have met. This social aspect has helped me increase my confidence, self-esteem, and interpersonal skills. I recommend these sessions to friends and family and would really like others to benefit from them too!"

"Being able to learn such an elite sport is something I would never have been able to do, were it not free or in an accessible location and meeting so many different women who attend and socialising with them is as important as it is in the exercising that Fencing provides. I would very much like to continue to Fence and will try to offer support where possible and where needed to secure future funding as much as I enjoy Fencing, I believe other women will also enjoy and benefit from it as well."

"Everyone is so warm and welcoming; no-one is ever excluded. If the sessions did not take place, I would not have been able to experience such an elite sport which I have loved learning. I have been searching for a class for women only and I feel comfortable partaking in an all women environment. Good for my health and wellbeing, as well as learning a new skill with my daughter. It gives us time to build our relationship and have fun. Binni has been an exceptional coach, offers clear guidance and instructions, helps to improve our skills. Excellent sessions!"

Similarly, the MGF community project in London at the Brady Arts Centre also continues to receive ongoing praise from participants:

"Alhamduillah, it's been great attending your sessions, not only benefitting physically, but also good for mental wellbeing. Gives me little time out for myself. Love seeing friendly faces and getting to know new sisters in the process"

"Coming to fencing with Mercedes is the best way to start my week. I never would have thought that I would ever do fencing, meet such incredible people, right in the heart of my community of Tower Hamlets."

We continue to maintain close relationships with our fencing coaches, supporting them to make independent funding applications, and to also make their sessions and spaces sustainable. We are running leadership programmes with them and their participants, creating a space where our coaches can go on to become coach developers and run training programmes for other coaches and sports professionals, all with the values of the MGF project. With this in mind, we are also working closely with coaches and participants to set up fencing clubs that can continue to run for women and girls in the local area once the project has come to a close.

Criminal Justice

Our current criminal justice programme aims to raise awareness of, and halt unequal and discriminatory treatment that Muslims experience in the prison system. Maslaha looks to influence systemic change within the criminal justice sphere in multiple ways: informing and shaping formal policy development at local and national levels; providing scrutiny to the government and the wider sector on the treatment of Muslims in the criminal justice system, and advocating for their needs, and imagining new and radical ways of working.

We are part of several sector networks involving both government and non-governmental agencies and organisations, including Clinks, T2A Alliance (Transition to Adulthood) and FOME (Female Offender Ethnic Minority working group). We have continued to advocate for Muslim prisoners in meetings with the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS). We participate in regular meetings to update others on our work, as well as ensuring the perspectives of Muslims and other marginalised groups continue to inform policy frameworks and implementation plans, and the work of practitioners. As the prison estate emerges from Covid restrictions, we have been involved in a special interest group to advise the MoJ and HMPPS on the criminal justice system's management of, and recovery from, Covid-19.

The influence of our criminal justice work has led us to be invited to work with the Wales Criminal Justice Board on the development of an Anti-Racism strategy, due to be published in autumn 2022. The aim of the plan is to address every criminal justice department within Wales and scrutinise the current ways of working that can lead to discrimination. It is important that we are part of these groups to make sure that the needs of Muslims in the criminal justice system are recognised and represented.

While religion has been identified by many as a potentially positive tool for those in prison, Muslims often come under increased scrutiny and suspicion for practicing their faith. This is often fuelled by negative and crude stereotypes about Muslim people linked to a narrative of radicalisation and extremism. The London Probation Service has introduced a new approach using faith as a supportive factor in rehabilitation. We have been part of initial roundtable discussions on how this will work with the probation service. It is important that Islam is seen as a supportive factor to rehabilitation rather than being perceived through a lens of fear and risk.

"When you're in that place, and you have nobody, you ain't got your family, it's going to be [your religion] that helps you, cause it's spiritual, it's personal."

former Muslim prisoner

The use of legal tools to tackle racial injustice is a useful way to scrutinise government policy and practices as well as access data on racial disparities in the criminal justice system. Using Freedom of Information requests, we aim to elicit a broader picture of Muslims' experience of the criminal

WHERE THERE ARE A LOT OF MUSLIMS, THE OFFICERS THERE WOULD NEVER FORGET
"OH, I NEED TO WAKE THIS PERSON UP"

WHERE AS OTHER PRISONS THEY DON'T BOTHER.
YOU TELL THEM, BUT THEY WON'T WRITE IT DOWN.
IF THEY FORGET, THEY FORGET.

justice system, including the disparities they face in treatment, and the impact of Prevent regime within prisons.

We made submissions to the Joint Committee on Human Rights call for evidence on the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill, as well as submissions to the Justice Select Committee inquiry into mental health in prisons and the Ministry of Justice's consultation on its Prisons Strategy White Paper. In these, we outlined how specific clauses of the Policing Bill would lead to the unfair assessment of people who appear Muslim or are practising Islam as a significant danger to the public, and the possibility for black people to more likely be perceived as posing a risk, stereotyped as threatening, aggressive or violent. We also pointed to the need for practitioners, services, and the prison system to better understand and respond to the impact of discrimination and Islamophobia on mental health and wellbeing and recognise how this can create barriers for accessing support.

"It is vital that there is not a 'generic' approach to mental health and wellbeing in prisons. We have found that where services understand the cultural, social, and religious granularity of communities, and then embed that into practice, the service is trusted and more likely to be used."

Justice Select Committee submission

IMAGINING NEW WAYS OF WORKING

As well as highlighting and challenging the inequalities Muslim's face, we believe it is important to imagine different ways of working and collaborating within the sector to practically address societal harms without further perpetuating them. We work closely with other social justice and grassroots organisations that are exploring with their communities how to promote safety while resisting racial injustice and inequalities.

We have been part of work led by Liberty focusing on non-policing solutions to social harms with a particular emphasis on racial disparity.

Tani waa wareer!
DID YOU SIGN THE FORM?
LET'S SCHEDULE A MEETING TO DISCUSS THIS...
IT'S... ALL... IN... THE... LETTER WE... SENT!!

SCHOOL

ME AND WHITE SUPREMACY
LAYLA F. SAAD
SISTER OUTSIDER
AUDRE LORDE
TEACHING TO TRANSGRESS // BELL HOOKS
NATIVES - AKALA
FOR WHITE FOLKS WHO TEACH IN THE HOOD
CHRIS EMDIN

PASSPORT

3. Educating and empowering Muslim and other marginalised communities

Schools with Roots

SCHOOLS WITH ROOTS UNIVERSITIES TRAINING

We continue to carry out teacher training with PGCE primary school students at the University of East London – with two workshops, the first 'Power and Positionality' looking at how racism manifests in schools, and the second 'Community Engagement' looking at how community engagement is central to anti-racism and offering teachers practical tools from our schools with roots programme that they can take into their schools and classrooms in the future.

We believe that it is important for this content to be a core part of teacher training during formative training years, as opposed to add-on training later in teachers' careers. The sessions we delivered were online and were well attended with around 100 students in attendance at each session. We had extremely positive feedback from staff and students. This was our second year working with UEL and off the back of the success of this we have arranged to work with them again next academic year, hopefully cementing this training in their teacher training curriculum.

Looking ahead, we want to continue working with PGCE students and to make this offer available to as many universities as possible. We are also excited about working in person with UEL students next year and adapting the sessions for this.

MULTI-LINGUAL ACCESSIBLE RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

This year we have focused on getting our resources out into the world and seen by as many families as possible. The response has been phenomenal, and we have been contacted by a whole range of individuals and organisations asking to share our resources. These have included Milton Keynes Council and Norfolk County Council who both asked us if we could do further translations of our early years resources into Dari and Arabic for refugee families they are supporting and we were able to do this. The response from one government worker was: 'I was blown away by the quality and usefulness of these films. Schools With Roots have done a truly brilliant job. We intend to share the links with the following groups: All EYFS Lead teachers in Rochdale BC, The

"Your materials look amazing, and I would love to use them with our families and colleagues in the Early Years and school networks. I would also like to thank you for addressing the racism facing many of our communities."

Foster Care network in Rochdale, Rochdale Children's Centres, The local EAL network, All Rochdale pre-school settings, Rochdale library services, All Rochdale primary schools". Beyond councils, we've had very positive responses from schools, teachers, other charities, educational groups, and individuals. For example, one individual recently contacted us to say:

"Your materials look amazing, and I would love to use them with our families and colleagues in the Early Years and school networks. I would also like to thank you for addressing the racism facing many of our communities."

With our new funding, we will continue to make accessible multi-lingual resources for families and continue to make sure the ones we have created have as wide a reach as possible.

WORKING WITH PARENTS AT SANDRINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

We have recently returned to work with one of our original partner schools, Sandringham school in Forest Gate in London. This again was made possible by our latest round of funding, and we want to work systematically with Sandringham parents over the next three years. We are in the process of working with parents to build a community garden at the school, where parents can eventually grow their own food, and where teachers and students can use the garden for learning. Eventually we hope to bring parents into this process, so that as children learn through the garden, parents can become involved with this and feed into the content that is taught. We will work continuously with Sandringham parents over the next three years building and developing the garden and learning new skills around organic food growing. This work will be alongside our work with parents and communities at each of our new schools in London, Bradford, and Coventry. We are lucky to be in a position to do this work with Sandringham which is the result of the strong relationship we have built up with the school since our first work there in 2017.

MFest

MFest is a multi-arts festival of Muslim knowledge and creativity. We bring together artists, activists, thinkers, organisations, and collectives to celebrate the collective power of diverse Muslim communities, connect with our roots and imagine thriving futures. At MFest, we reclaim and recontextualise the diverse stories and histories that represent Muslim communities. We work with partners to explore and unlock existing archives - while also celebrating and acknowledging all the vital ways that embodied knowledge sustains and nourishes our communities.

A big part of our reimagined MFest is addressing the barriers to accessing arts for many Muslim and Black and brown communities, so we focus on creating tangible opportunities and meaningful legacy.

HAJAR PRESS PUBLICATIONS

Following on from the MFest Short Story Competition that we launched in partnership with Hajar Press and with generous support from Spread the Word and Arvon Foundation, two winners were announced. The winners (Mohamed Tonsy and Saima Begum) both received a publishing contract with Hajar Press and Arvon Residencies.

WRITERS LAB

The MFest Writers Lab is a writing development programme for Muslim writers in the early stages of their career. The group consists of a cohort of 20 Muslim writers (18 years +) across the UK.

Last Autumn 2021, the writers received weekly workshops on different writing mediums such as playwriting, comic-writing, screenwriting, and novel-writing, with a range of different partners including Soho Theatre, Spread the Word, SelfMadeHero and We Are Bridge.

This year, we have partnered with the Roundhouse, Soho Theatre, Rich Mix and Oxford House to provide the Writers Lab group with space for regular meetings. MFest have organised and facilitated monthly meetings to ensure artists have space to work on MFest programming and projects, as well as their own individual creative projects.

4. Building a well-functioning organisation with financial and organisational sustainability

MEDIA/ APPEARANCES

- Book – Stronger by Poorna Bell (April 2021)
- BBC Woman's Hour with Mara Hafezi (July 2021)
- Times Radio with Phil Williams (July 2021)
- Newham Recorder by Michael Cox (August 2021)
- Grazia Magazine with Sophie Walker – MGF featured in a column spotlighting women fighting for change in an interview with our fencing coach Mercedes Baptiste Halliday (November 2021)
- Book – Muslim Girls Fence case study featured in *Pedagogies of Social Justice in Physical Education and Youth Sport* by Shrehan Lynch, Jennifer L. Walton-Fisette, Carla Luguetti (December 2021)
- BBC Radio London – Muslim Girls Fence lead story (2021)
- BBC Sheffield – Muslim Girls Fence (2021)
- BBC Wiltshire & Gloucestershire – Muslim Girls Fence (2021)
- BBC Derby – Muslim Girls Fence (2021)
- BBC WM & CWR (West Midlands) – Muslim Girls Fence (2021)

EVENTS

- Women of the World (WOW) Sounds – MGF presented two poets, Rakaya Esime Fetuga and Zahra Ahmad, performing individual sets in partnership with WOW Sounds on National Poetry Day (October 2021)
- MGF Barcelona Film Screening – Festival de Cinema de la Mediterrània i del Llevant 2021 (November 2021)
- Women of the World at Southbank as part of International Women's Day – MGF presented a fencing and poetry exhibition at the event which was attended by roughly 400 people (March 2022)
- Mayor of London's 17th Eid in the square – MGF presented a fencing workshop to over 400 young people (May 2022)

Coming Up

Working closely with communities and families in Birmingham and London, SWR will continue to produce accessible, multilingual resources to help families support their children's learning.

Muslim Girls Fence will continue to deliver workshops in schools across the UK, focusing on the impact of racism and Islamophobia on mental health and wellbeing in young people, to build on our mental health resource which will be launched and disseminated in March 2023. Additionally, MGF will continue to be involved in international initiatives such as the 'The Walk' (Little Amal) arts festival, and work with organisations such as Kids of Colour and Asra Club, as well as continue to build on our national MGF alumni/ambassador programme.

We will continue to work with CW+ on their 'Best For You' programme to promote our MGF mental health resource develop a partnership focused on young people and wellbeing.

MFest will continue to build infrastructure and create opportunities for Muslim writers at different stages of their careers and we are currently planning our next festival with the British Library.

Our criminal justice programme will continue to collaborate with our various partners to help make their services more accessible to Muslims in prison, as well as build approaches to mental health and education that are relevant for Muslims within the criminal justice system. We will also continue a conversation to highlight the real-life discrimination Muslims face in prisons through different creative methods. Our influence at policy and institutional levels, through the different sector networks that we contribute to, continues to be vital to create the change that we seek.

Moreover, we also plan to invest resources in activities for next year.

Thanks

Maslaha gratefully acknowledges funding in 2021/2022 from:

Pears Foundation

National Lottery

Barrow Cadbury

Lloyds Foundation

A B Charitable Trust

Network for Social Change

Sport England

Comic Relief

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust

Tudor Trust

Esmee Fairbairn

What is your Favourite thing about Muslim Girls Fence So far?

The FENCING

I love that we get to learn thing in both fencing and our creative lessons.

the fun (community) activities we do as they make us think more about our ideal place + ways we could improve the community

I just like how we have fun by learning new things and I can feel safe. I'm glad my friend told me to join because I have fun with her while fencing.

learning about fencing! how to thrust + lunge

The creative things we do

The activities we do about well being, discrimination and equality. I also like when we learn fencing.

The Fencing and the activities we did

Financial Summary

Financial Review

During the year 2022 Maslaha made a net surplus of £182, 048 (2021: £84, 181) resulting in net assets of £555, 343 (2021: £373, 295).

The organisation has a number of multi-year grants with principal sources of funding from a variety of charitable foundations, as well as donations and consultancy work. All expenditure for the year is directly related to fulfilling the aims and objectives of the funder's requirements.

Reserves Policy

In the Trustees' view, the reserves should provide the charity with adequate financial stability through maintaining sufficient reserves in liquid form to meet short term obligations. As Maslaha develops its own internal infrastructure, the reserve level will be reviewed to ensure sufficient to support the organisation to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future. The trustees propose to maintain the charity's reserves at a level which is at least equivalent to three months overhead expenditure. This level has been set giving due regard to its manner of operation & likely funding streams. At present, this is taken as £50k.

The Trustees acknowledge that as a small & growing organisation Maslaha may need to utilise reserves to support cash flow; this is permitted in the following circumstances:

- To support cash flow during a timing discrepancy within a project which is demonstrably on budget overall
- To cover unexpected or unforeseen costs that need to be borne by the organisation.

If either of the above are triggered and would be deemed to de-stabilise the organisation, a case is to be put to trustees for consideration and authorisation prior to spend.

The Trustees regularly review the amount of reserves that are required to ensure that they are adequate to fulfil the charity's continuing obligations.

Please note, surpluses are retained as reserves for the future operating activities of the charity.

Legal and Admin

The objects of the Charity are:

- to advance the education of the public in the subject of the Islamic faith and its practice and to there- by promote a greater awareness and understanding of Islam and its daily practice amongst Muslims and non-Muslims alike;
- and to promote equality and diversity for the public benefit in particular but not exclusively by:

  (a) raising public sector awareness and understanding of Islam and the need for services that are appropriately tailored for and sensitive to the practices of Muslim communities; and

  (b) promoting and informing dialogue, debate and greater understanding between Muslims and non-Muslims on issues of cohesion and integration. In practice this is achieved through our approach.

Our team

Raheel Mohammed – Director
Sahra Mohamed – Head of Delivery
Emily Mason – Senior Project Manager
Allia Fredericks – Senior Project Manager
Zahbia Yousuf – Senior Project Manger
Saara Quested – Senior Project Manager
Suleman Amad – Project Manager
Nirad Abrol – Project Manager
Fabiolla Lorusso – Project Manager

Our trustees

Emran Mian – Chair
Jane Earl
Alia Alzougbi
Sameer Rahim
Isabel Lucena
Martin Rose

Thank you to all the staff who have contributed their hard work and expertise to our work and have moved on, and excited to be working with new colleagues.

Our address

Maslaha

Oxford House
Derbyshire Street
London E2 6HG

Bank details

HSBC Bank PLC

465 Bethnal Green Road,
Bethnal Green, London E2 9QW

Independent examiner

Anthony Epton
BA FCA CTA FCIE

Goldwins Chartered accountants
75 Maygrove Road, West Hampstead,
London NW6 2EG

Report of the trustees

The Trustees are required by law to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which show a true and fair view of the financial activities of the company and of its financial position at the end of that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and with applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on an ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accountancy records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the company and to 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.

The principle objects of the charity during the year are stated in the Legal & Admin section of this report. The trustees are aware of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit reporting as set out in Section 17 Charities Act 2011. The Trustees believe that the charity achieves a public benefit as detailed elsewhere in this report.

Approved by and signed on behalf oh the trustees, on 1 December 2022:

Emran Mian

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Maslaha for the year ended 31 March 2022

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Anthony Epton BA FCA CTA FCIE

Goldwins Chartered accountants
75 Maygrove Road, West Hampstead,
London NW6 2EG

02/12/2022

Accounts

Maslaha
Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total Funds £	2021 Total Funds £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	**562**	**-**	**562**	25
Charitable activities	4	**181,665**	**372,574**	**554,239**	436,038
Other trading activities	5	**3,675**	**-**	**3,675**	1,400
Total income		**185,902**	**372,574**	**558,476**	437,463
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	**46,983**	**329,445**	**376,428**	353,282
Total expenditure		**46,983**	**329,445**	**376,428**	353,282
Net income for the year	7	**138,919**	**43,129**	**182,048**	84,181
Transfers between funds		**-**	**-**	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**138,919**	**43,129**	**182,048**	84,181
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		**139,161**	**234,134**	**373,295**	289,114
Total funds carried forward		**278,080**	**277,263**	**555,343**	373,295

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 16 to the financial statements.

Maslaha

Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	**12**		**-**		-
Current assets:					
Debtors	**13**	**49,991**		45,210	
Cash at bank and in hand		**514,722**		343,083	
		564,713		388,293	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**14**	**9,370**		14,998	
Net current assets			**555,343**		373,295
Total net assets	**15**		**555,343**		373,295
Funds	**16**				
Restricted funds			**277,263**		234,134
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds		**278,080**		139,161	
Total unrestricted funds			**278,080**		139,161
Total funds			**555,343**		373,295

For the year ending 31 March 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.The directors acknowledge their responsibility for.complying with the requirements of the Act withrespect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companiessubject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the trustees on 1 December 2022
and signed on their behalf by:

Emran Mian
Trustee

Company registration no. 7309979

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

Maslaha
Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Note	2022	2021
Cash flows from operating activities:		**£**	£
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	**a**	**171,639**	99,647
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Sale/ (purchase) of fixed assets		-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		**171,639**	99,647
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		**343,083**	243,436
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	**b**	**514,722**	343,083

a) Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from	**2022**	2021
	£	£
Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	**182,048**	84,181
Depreciation	**-**	709
Decrease / (Increase) in debtors	**(4,781)**	11,806
Increase in creditors	**(5,628)**	2,951
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	**171,639**	99,647

b) Analysis of cash and cash equivalents	**At 1 April 2021**	**Cash flows**	**Other changes**	**At 31 March 2022**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Cash at bank and in hand	**343,083**	**171,639**	**-**	**514,722**
Total cash and cash equivalents	**343,083**	**171,639**	**-**	**514,722**

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

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 - effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

b) Reconciliation with previously Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP)

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was required.

c) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

d) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. Income received in advance for the provision of specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is a treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

e) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

f) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

g) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted 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 Accounting policies (continued)

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise of trading costs and the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 6.

j) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Computer equipment	on 3 years straight line basis

k) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

l) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

m) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021 Total Funds
	£	£	£
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	25	-	25
Charitable activities:			
Grants			
Pears Foundation	50,000	-	50,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust	-	29,250	29,250
Sports England	-	12,069	12,069
Porticus Foundation	-	60,000	60,000
COVID-19 Response	-	34,504	34,504
Noel Buxton Trust	15,000	-	15,000
Comic relief/GLA	-	94,750	94,750
National Lottery	-	99,990	99,990
AB Charitable Trust	15,000	-	15,000
Stichting Events Foundation	-	21,750	21,750
Misc	3,725	-	3,725
Other income	1,400	-	1,400
Total income	85,150	352,313	437,463
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities:	58,731	294,551	353,282
Total expenditure	58,731	294,551	353,282
Net income before gains / (losses) on investments	26,419	57,762	84,181
Net gains / (losses) on investments	-	-	-
Net income	26,419	57,762	84,181
Transfers between funds	-	-	-
Net income before other recognised gains and losses	26,419	57,762	84,181
Net movement in funds	26,419	57,762	84,181
Total funds brought forward	114,584	174,530	289,114
	141,003	232,292	373,295

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	**Restricted Funds**	**2022 Total Funds**	2021 Total Funds
	£	**£**	**£**	£
Donations	**562**	**-**	**562**	25
	562	**-**	**562**	25

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total Funds £	2021 Total Funds £
Income earned from charitable activities				
Grants				
Pears Foundation	**50,000**	**-**	**50,000**	50,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust	**-**	**9,750**	**9,750**	29,250
Sports England	**-**	**39,033**	**39,033**	12,069
Esmee Fairbairn	**50,000**	**-**	**50,000**	-
Tudor Trust	**50,000**	**-**	**50,000**	-
Lloyds Foundation	**-**	**174,960**	**174,960**	-
Porticus Foundation	**-**	**-**	**-**	60,000
Joseph Rowntree	**11,665**	**-**	**11,665**	-
National Lottery	**-**	**99,982**	**99,982**	99,990
Baring Foundation	**-**	**48,849**	**48,849**	-
COVID-19 Response	**-**	**-**	**-**	34,504
Noel Buxton Trust	**-**	**-**	**-**	15,000
AB Charitable Trust	**20,000**	**-**	**20,000**	15,000
Stichting Events Foundation	**-**	**-**	**-**	21,750
Misc	**-**	**-**	**-**	3,725
Comic Relief/GLA	**-**	**-**	**-**	94,750
Total income from charitable activities	**181,665**	**372,574**	**554,239**	436,038

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total Funds £	2021 Total Funds £
Consultancy fees	**3,675**	**-**	**3,675**	1,400
	3,675	**-**	**3,675**	1,400

6 Analysis of expenditure

	Charitable activities	**2022 Total**	2021 Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	**260,457**	**260,457**	247,929
Direct cost			
Depreciation	**-**	**-**	709
Project costs	**95,114**	**95,114**	87,280
Publicity & Reports	**475**	**475**	3,780
Support cost			
Office costs	**7,058**	**7,058**	4,309
Governance cost			
Bank charges	**144**	**144**	77
Examiner's fees	**980**	**980**	885
Accountancy fees	**12,200**	**12,200**	8,313
Total expenditure 2021	**376,428**	**376,428**	353,282
Total expenditures 2020	353,282	353,282	

Of the total expenditure, £46,983 was unrestricted (2021: £58,731) and £329,445 was restricted (2021: £294,551).

Analysis of expenditure-prior year

	Charitable activities	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	247,929	247,929	202,157
Direct cost			
Consultancy		-	147
Insurance		-	380
Depreciation	709	709	708
Project costs	87,280	87,280	66,301
Publicity & Reports	3,780	3,780	150
Support cost			
Office costs	4,309	4,309	4,680
Governance cost			
Bank charges	77	77	82
Examiner's fees	885	885	850
Accountancy fees	8,313	8,313	13,075
Total expenditure 2021	353,282	353,282	288,530

7 Net incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging / crediting:

	2022	2021
	£	**£**
Independent Examiner's fees net of VAT	**833**	775
Depreciation	**-**	709

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	**£**
Salaries and wages	**225,832**	216,465
Social security costs	**23,058**	20,297
Staff pension costs	**9,872**	9,155
Other staff costs	**1,695**	2,012
	260,457	247,929

The total employee benefits including pension contributions of the key management personnel were £79,185 (2021: £69,883).

The following number of employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension) during the year between:

	2022	2021
£60,000 -£69,000	**1**	1

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2021: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2021: £nil).

No trustees received any payment or reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs.

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
Charitable activity	**3.0**	3.0
Support	**1.5**	1.5
Governance	**0.5**	0.5
	5.0	5.0

10 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

11 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Office Equipment	**Total**
	£	**£**
Cost		
At the start of the year	2,824	**2,824**
Additions in year	-	-
Disposals in year	-	-
At the end of the year	2,824	**2,824**
Depreciation		
At the start of the year	2,824	**2,824**
Charge for the year	-	**-**
Eliminated on disposal	-	-
At the end of the year	2,824	**2,824**
Net book value		
At the end of the year	**-**	**-**
At the start of the year	-	-

13 Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accured income	**49,991**	45,210
	49,991	45,210

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Taxation & social security	**3,473**	11,672
Pension liabilities	**497**	1,126
Accruals	**5,400**	2,200
	9,370	14,998

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General Unrestricted funds	**Designated Funds**	**Restricted Funds**	**Total funds**
	£	£	£	**£**
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	**-**
Net current assets	**278,080**	**-**	**277,263**	**555,343**
Net assets at the end of the year	**278,080**	-	**277,263**	**555,343**

Analysis of net assets between funds-prior year

	General Unrestricted funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Net current assets	139,161	-	234,134	373,295
Net assets at the end of the year	139,161	-	234,134	373,295

16 Movements in funds

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Barrow Cadbury	**19,445**	**9,750**	**(26,056)**	**-**	**3,139**
Comic Relief Recovery	**7,449**	**-**	**(7,449)**	**-**	**-**
Covid-19 Response	**17,737**	**-**	**(17,737)**	**-**	**-**
National Lottery	**59,233**	**99,982**	**(79,247)**	**-**	**79,968**
Stichting Events Foundation	**21,000**	**-**	**(10,347)**	**-**	**10,653**
Sports England	**-**	**39,033**	**(37,849)**	**-**	**1,184**
Porticus Foundation	**65,748**	**-**	**(54,488)**	**-**	**11,260**
Lloyds Foundation	**30,540**	**174,960**	**(81,290)**	**-**	**124,210**
Comic Relief/GLA	**12,982**	**-**	**(12,982)**	**-**	**-**
Baring Foundation	**-**	**48,849**	**(2,000)**	**-**	**46,849**
Total restricted funds	**234,134**	**372,574**	**(329,445)**	**-**	**277,263**
General funds					
Total Unrestricted Funds	**139,161**	**185,902**	**(46,983)**	**-**	**278,080**
Total unrestricted funds	**139,161**	**185,902**	**(46,983)**	**-**	**278,080**
Total funds including pension fund	**373,295**	**558,476**	**(376,428)**	**-**	**555,343**

Movements in funds-prior year	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Barrow Cadbury	3,677	29,250	(15,324)	1,842	19,445
Comic Relief Recovery	-	39,250	(31,801)	-	7,449
Covid-19 Response	-	34,504	(16,767)	-	17,737
National Lottery	-	99,990	(40,757)	-	59,233
0	-	21,750	(750)	-	21,000
Sports England	32,506	12,069	(44,575)	-	-
Porticus Foundation	66,284	60,000	(60,536)	-	65,748
Lloyds Foundation	69,536	-	(38,995)	-	30,541
Comic Relief/GLA	2,528	55,500	(45,046)	-	12,982
Total restricted funds	174,530	352,313	(294,551)	1,842	234,134
General funds					
Total Unrestricted Funds	114,584	85,150	(58,731)	(1,842)	139,161
Total unrestricted funds	114,584	85,150	(58,731)	(1,842)	139,161
Total funds including pension fund	289,114	437,463	(353,282)	-	373,295

Barrow Cadbury
The purpose of this grant is to improving vital services for Muslims in the prison system and highlighting systemic racism.

Porticus Foundation
Developing Maslaha methodologies and tools to challenge educational inequality in UK primary schools.

Comic Relief
This is a continuation of Muslim girls Fence Project in London and Birmingham.

Google Foundtion of Tides Foundation
This is a continuation of Muslim girl Fence Project across 5 cities.

Comic Relief/GLA
This is a continuation of Muslim girls Fence Project in London.

Sports England
This is a continuation of Muslim girl Fence in the context of inactivity and economic disadvantage.

Lloyds Foundation
Improving vital services for Muslims in the prison system and highlighting systemic racism.

17 Operating lease commitments

At the balance sheet date, the charity had no financial commmitment under non-cancellable operating leases.

18 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2022 (2021: none).

Maslaha was incorporated as a limited liability company (7309979) on July 9th 2010 and was registered as a charity in England and Wales (1139560) on December 29th 2010.

maslaha

MASLAHA

England & Wales - Charity number 1139560

Accounts

maslaha

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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Foreword

At the height of the pandemic, we were invited to join a group of community and faith organisations, and health practitioners from Barts NHS Trust to help create public health advice for communities who were hit hard by Covid-19.

This group worked at a neighbourhood level, identifying which families were suffering from bereavement, which specific communities were feeling isolated and afraid.

There were no terms of reference or a mission statement for this group, simply the need to alleviate the suffering of the communities they worked with and were from.

This group met every week for the past 12 months and without fail generously offered practical support, advice, and sometimes a much-needed prayer.

Despite the restrictions of lockdowns, we worked with these partners to create films and resources in different languages that would help people navigate the hospital system, talk to a seriously ill relatives in an Intensive Care Unit or answers questions about whether home-cooked food was allowed into hospitals. There was a constant flow of granular information and immediate action, however seemingly small.

The pandemic is far from over as communities live with the grief of losing family and friends. The existing inequalities and racisms have been exacerbated and this will make life harder for those who have the least voice and power in society.

These partnerships based on learning and practice, and importantly care, have always been a part of our work. In a pandemic these relationships had to be formed quickly to deal with a public health emergency.

Our Schools with Roots project created multilingual resources to support families (and produced with families) during lockdown with literacy, e-safety, and transitions into reception and from primary to secondary school. These resources are vital to mitigate against the impact of Covid-19 on the most marginalised communities. The coming year has already seen more schools reaching out to us for these resources and for additional support.

Muslim Girls Fence was able to adapt quickly to the pandemic and offer online sessions to communities. We are starting to prepare for physical sessions again in schools and will be focusing on the specific mental health needs and therapeutic tools that can be useful for Muslim pupils.

Our criminal justice work documents in details the experience of Muslims in the prison system and the systemic racism they face as a group, particularly when showing signs of religiosity. Alongside this work we have been working with providers of vital services such as mental health services to ensure they recognise and meet the specific needs of Muslims in prison, especially following a 23 hour lockdown in prisons.

At a national government level, we continue to raise the problematic rise of Muslims in prison with Ministers and civil servants and we will continue to raise this issue more widely.

We ran our first multi-arts festival, MFest, in partnership with the British Library. The festival was a celebration of Muslim knowledge and creativity and explored archiving, the ethics of loving, and comedy. It felt appropriate that we should curate a joyful event in community with so many talented Muslim artists after the year we had experienced.

We had audiences of up to 230 people with people tuning in from India, Malaysia, the Emirates, the US, Turkey and European countries.

As well as panel discussions, MFest aims to build infrastructure and community and therefore help to create more opportunities for Muslim artists and writers with partners such as the Arvon Foundation, Spread the Word, Soho Theatre, and Hajar Press.

The pandemic is far from over as communities live with the grief of losing family and friends. The existing inequalities and racisms have been exacerbated and this will make life harder for those who have the least voice and power in society.

Why Maslaha?

The past few years have seen a heightened focus on Muslim communities and Islam across the UK and abroad. The combination of terrorist attacks, war, political decisions, and social deprivation have all shaped with an intense pace how Muslims are seen and thought of in the public imagination. It has been out of this difficult period that Maslaha began as an idea to eventually become an independent organisation.

Maslaha translates from the Arabic as 'for the common good' and this is the driving force behind all our work.

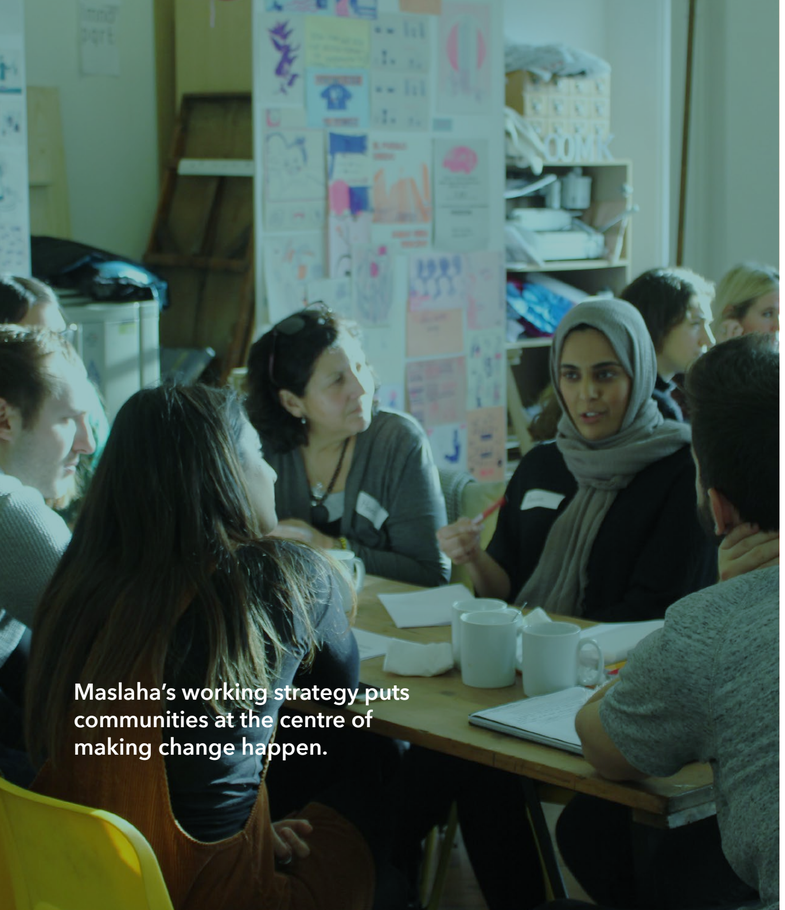
Despite this tense history our overwhelming experience has been that our partners from every sector of society are committed to, and believe, that it is possible to create empowered Muslim communities. Maslaha translates from the Arabic as 'for the common good' and this is the driving force behind all our work. We tackle the most immediate social issues affecting Muslim communities today as well as creating a greater understanding of Islam from a cultural and historical perspective.

The name Maslaha is also important because it is about changing the language that is used about Muslims and Islam. We need to expand our language and vocabulary if we are to tackle some of our biggest issues, and if we are to give communities the space to think for themselves and speak on their own terms. Muslims represent the largest minority faith group in the UK and constitute an ethnically diverse population with a very young age profile. A significant proportion of this population lives in deprived inner-city areas, and Muslims have higher levels of unemployment, economic inactivity, ill health, educational achievement, and poor housing conditions than all other faith groups.

Our health work, for example, recognizes that Muslim communities experience disproportionately high health inequalities around conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, pregnancy and depression. A contributing factor to this is that both health services and communities are not equipped to appropriately tackle the root causes of these issues and engage with the complex realities of all patients' lives.

The way we approach this in our health interventions is to create resources for both patients and practitioners that combine faith advice and cultural references with medical advice. We then embed these resources in the everyday spaces of communities, as well as nationally. By doing this we have reached over 19,500 patients and health professionals and our resources are endorsed by NHS trusts across the country, the Royal College of GPs (RCGP) and medical curricula in universities.

One of Maslaha's strengths is bringing together a diverse mix of people within and between each project: supporters and partners include the young and the elderly, nurses and teachers, artists and academics, imams and historians, policy makers and school pupils, and those who do have a faith and those who do not. Our projects straddle a number of sectors and this unusual mix of people has led to new networks of collaboration and new perspectives on how social issues can be tackled.



Maslaha's working strategy puts communities at the centre of making change happen.

Our strategy

Maslaha's working strategy puts communities at the centre of making change happen. Our vision – that Muslim communities are empowered to overcome social inequalities – can only be truly achieved through working closely with communities, and by recognising their role as active proponents of that change. Our strategy will guide our work over the coming years and enable us to effectively work towards our objectives of reducing levels of deprivation amongst Muslim communities and challenging stereotypes.

Maslaha has produced award-winning and ground-breaking resources, driven by an ability to engage with communities, service providers, and decision-makers alike, to reach across perceived institutional divides, and to empower and enable motivated individuals and organisations to pursue good ideas based on a lived understanding of particular needs.

This approach informs all of our work, and is key to Maslaha's ability to implement our strategy effectively.

Our Areas of Work

HEALTH: Muslim communities frequently have trouble accessing health services. A lack of shared language between patients, communities and health practitioners contributes to challenges in accessing support, and that support being relevant and appropriate.

EDUCATION: There are high levels of underachievement and disengagement among young Muslims, which are linked to a lack of appropriate support and culturally relevant curriculums and impacted by negative stereotypes and misconceptions that surround Islam and Muslim communities, and their relationship with wider society.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE: The number of Muslims in prison has more than doubled over the past 15 years and their experience, treatment and outcomes in prison are consistently more negative compared to non-Muslims. Negative stereotyping has been shown to act as a barrier to opportunity and engagement with services for Muslims in prison.

GENDER: Muslim women and girls face complex discrimination that arises from the intersections of their faith, race, gender and other identities. This in turn creates complex challenges and barriers for them across society including in areas such as employment and education. For example Muslim women are 70% more likely to be unemployed than white Christian women.

Our Strategic Goals

1. Educating public service providers and wider society to better understand Muslim and other marginalised communities.
2. Influencing systemic change and replicating local success at a national level.
3. Educating and empowering Muslim communities.
4. Building a well-functioning organisation with financial and organisational sustainability.

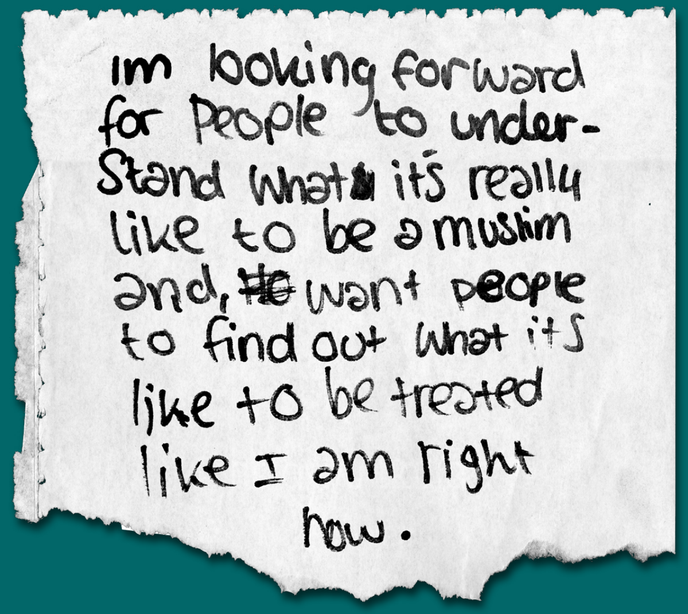
We carry out our strategic objectives by working across three defined areas: practice, policy and public imagination. Each social issue will require a different mix of these, but by working across all of them we ensure our work can achieve real and lasting impact.

Practice – working practically with communities at a grassroots local level.

Policy – changing practice at a local level can only be sustained by sharing our learning at a strategic level and ensuring that this informs future policy decisions.

Public imagination – Influencing, and where possible shaping, public debates and media narratives. We combine creativity with everyday action and engagement to find new ways to connect and communicate.

Case Studies



1. Educating public service providers and wider society to better understand Muslim and other marginalised communities

Muslim Girls Fence

Muslim Girls Fence has continued its delivery of the project throughout the pandemic and lockdowns remotely and is now slowly returning to face-to-face delivery. Though our projects, we have been working with our coaches, artists, facilitators, and partners at British Fencing to share our learnings. Our new focus for the project is the impact of racism and Islamophobia on mental health and wellbeing in young people.

Many large charities and mental health organisations are rightly focussing on the mental health of young people but impacts of structural racism and systemic inequalities are often overlooked and not included. We have been working with teachers and schools to put together a short report and learning resource that aims to raise awareness, share experiences, and bring this conversation into the mainstream. The report will be launched in the autumn of 2021, exploring the situation in schools for Muslim staff as well as students, and suggests some important points for senior leadership, classroom teachers and all school staff to be aware of.

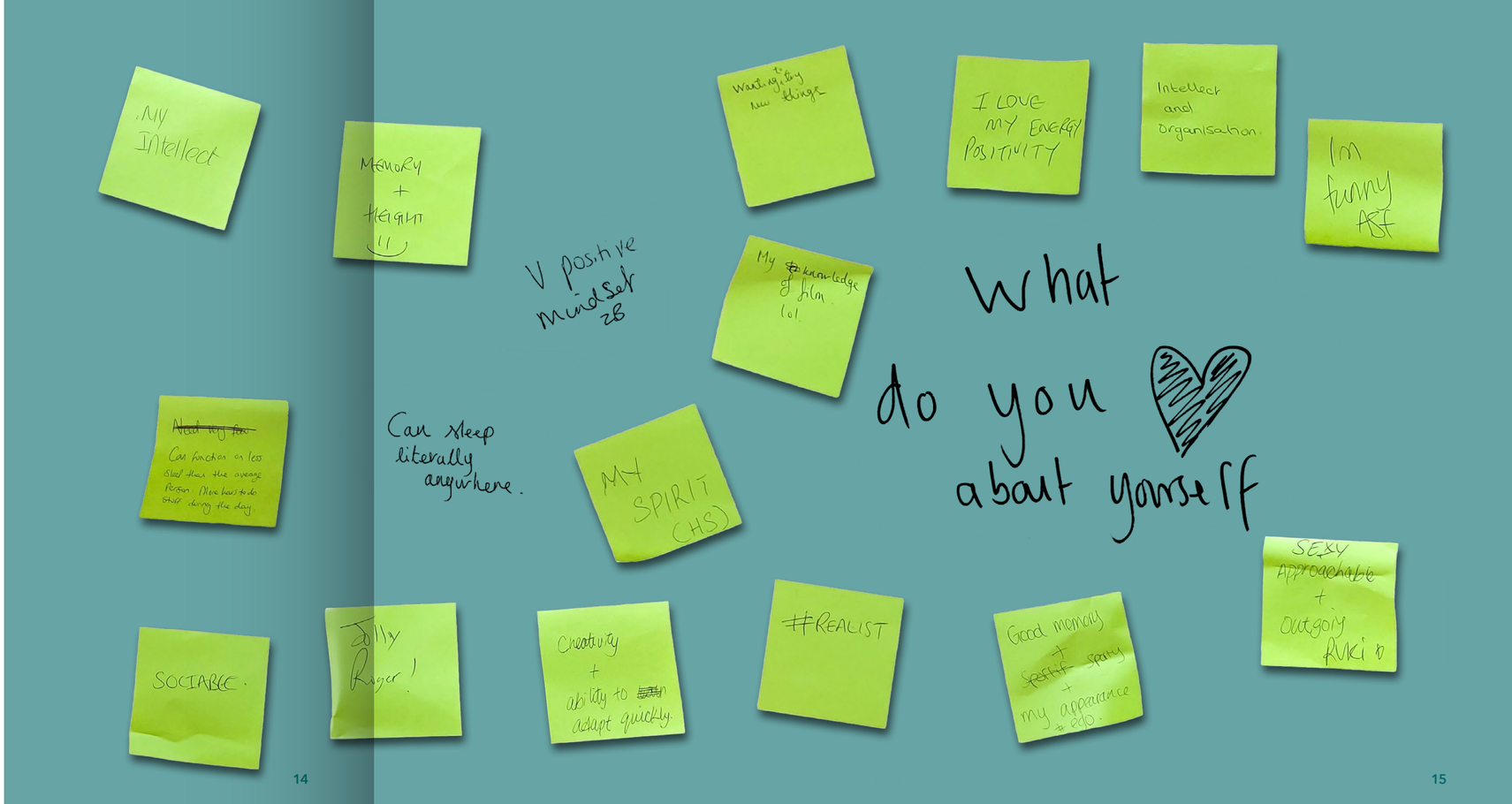
In the same vein, we have also produced a short podcast series, *'Re-imagining Care'*. We carried out research interviews with project participants, coaches, artists, academics, mental health and medical professionals and activists around the subject of wellbeing and care, what it means, what it should mean, how we practice care in our society and imagining better relationships of care for the future. We spoke about similar topics in our school projects, but also explored them more broadly and generally, including pandemic experiences for different members of society. Each episode is approximately 30 minutes long and can be found on the Maslaha Soundcloud page.

We have also been invited to present on webinars run by our funders to speak to other organisations about our work, how we work with communities and run the project both nationally and locally, and to share our learnings. This included a consultation for Sport England's strategy on Women in Sport.

We also presented at the Transformative PE Practice event for school physical education teachers and following the screening of our film *'Nobody's Metaphor'* during the summer last year, we have been invited to screen it and share our knowledge on panel discussions in over four online events, including to the University of Bournemouth Sports Science cohort.

Knowing that safe spaces for Muslim women and girls are scarce - and the work we do goes well beyond the project itself - thanks to our funders we also sponsored the launch event at MFest for an anthology of writing by visibly Muslim women entitled *'Cut From the Same Cloth?'* in partnership with Civic Square, we were able to organise an online book launch, the themes of which included wellbeing, care, and the focus of our projects. It is always important for us to build into our praxis the themes of the project itself, and we hope to continue nurturing valuable partnerships and working towards important goals together.

"It's great that you've continually focused on sharing your learning across the sector. We were grateful for the learning/feedback from Maslaha earlier on in the programme and were able to change some of the wording for future London Together funding calls as a result. This was a small change and there's a lot more to do but it's great that you're committed to keeping the conversation going with the sector, particularly around structural racism. Linked to this, we're going to be consulting with the sector ahead of our next sport for change funding call." - Comic Relief



Schools with Roots

EVENS EDUCATION PRIZE

We were delighted to win the 2020 Evens Education Prize for *Schools with Roots*, under the 'practice' category. The Evens Education Prize this year focused on 'Critical Thinking as a Practice of Freedom', focusing on organisations which embed practices that support critical thinking around social questions.

The Jury reported that *"the Schools with Roots project is a great example of the way in which Maslaha recognises and relies on the knowledge and expertise that exists in the communities they work with and the power this has to create change across society."*

They were particularly impressed by the way we *"supported schools and teachers to engage in critical thinking in order to make learning more relevant for both pupils and their families."* The jury were also impressed by the way that Maslaha's *"solid educational focus – proposing a new way to think about education – has the potential to make a real difference in the lives of the pupils and their families."*

We launched the documentary at an event at MFest 'Archiving for Ourselves' which included a conversation with four panellists: New Delhi based oral historian Aanchal Malhotra, Sadiya Ahmed, founder of *Everyday Muslim Heritage and Archive Initiative* in the UK, Asmaa Jama, who is part of the *Camel Meat + Cassette Tapes* project at Dhaqan Collective and Ghazal who worked with us as a co-producer of *"A Merciless Light - Covid 19 in Newham"*. At the event we discussed why recording and archiving at this time is more important than ever, and the role that oral history can play, as a form of activism, in subverting and reclaiming narratives. The documentary now sits in Newham's local archive.

Health

COVID-19 RESPONSE

We worked with community and faith organisations in partnership with Barts NHS Trust to deliver emergency health advice and support to communities in east London (in areas of high deprivation and loss of life), which were then shared nationally by our wider health networks.

At the start of the pandemic the health advice focused on measures to avoid catching the virus, vaccination, as well as advice on how to navigate the hospital system during the pandemic.

The start of the pandemic also coincided with Ramadan and at a time when little was understood about the virus. We worked with Imams, GPs, epidemiologists, medical researchers, and faith groups to produce resources on fasting safely during the pandemic.

We continue to work with our community and health partners to respond to the pandemic and plan for future community-led health responses.

Several funders and charities also approached Maslaha for advice on meeting the immediate needs of Black and brown communities in the pandemic, and long-term strategies for supporting them.

We're now building on this by working to create a stronger civil society for Black and brown communities, tackling issues around leadership, research, and funding processes. For example, we supported in setting up the Phoenix Fund – a £50 million fund aiming to create an equitable funding process for Black and brown-led organisations.

Criminal Justice

IMPROVING VOLUNTARY SECTOR SERVICES FOR MUSLIM PEOPLE IN PRISON

Over the past year we have been working closely with Samaritans, Pact, and the Prisoners' Education Trust to provide them with practical support to improve their services for Muslims. Between them, these charities cover most of the prison estate, delivering vital services that incorporate mental health, family and prisoner support, education, and pathways to rebuild lives following release.

For this phase of the criminal justice programme, we not only aim to ensure services run by these three charities are more accessible to Muslims but by working with some of the largest charities in criminal justice we aim to set an example for the wider voluntary sector, influencing how more charities understand religious and cultural identity and its relationship to service delivery.

Our work to date has included running workshops, developing training and providing resource sheets to educate staff and volunteers on the needs and experiences of Muslim prisoners so they are better equipped to provide support.

For example, we developed new training for Samaritans that was trialled and rolled out across all its volunteers working on prison helplines. The overwhelming majority of those who undertook the training felt they had better insight into the issues facing, and the needs of, Muslim prisoners and were more equipped to support them. This is shown in the results of a survey of the training's effectiveness:

- The knowledge/skills I learned will help me to feel more confident taking calls from people in prison in my branch: 98% strongly agree/agree
- Upon completion of this course, how would you now rate your understanding of some the unique challenges faced by people in prison: 94% significantly improved/improved
- After completing this course, I feel that my ability to provide empathetic emotional support for calls from people in prison has improved: 93% strongly agree/agree

"I think it's had a great impact on raising people's awareness and hopefully will help our volunteers remember that people of different faiths may have different concerns than they might anticipate in prison."

"I can imagine the prison life as I talk to a caller and the daily struggle for them with more understanding also the religious needs of prisoners, especially Muslim men."

"I am more aware of possible areas of support within the Prison such as the Equality and Safety Custody teams."

We are also supporting the charities to review the accessibility and relevance for Muslims in prison of some of the services and courses they run. We are then going on to develop exciting new pilots and tailored provision for Muslims that will shape their work in specific prisons before being rolling out more widely. These pilots will be specifically be targeted at increasing the level of engagement from Muslims and ensuring they in turn receive a service that understands and responds to their identity and meets their needs.

For example, we are working with the Prisoners' Education Trust to develop and trial education courses at Wormwood Scrubs prison that are delivered in partnership with prison imams specifically for Muslim prisoners. We are also supporting Pact to understand the barriers preventing Muslim women in prison engaging with their relationship and family services, including a course on healthy relationships, with the view of trialling a tailored course for Muslim women that is relevant to their cultural, religious and social backgrounds.

REALITIES OF RAMADAN IN PRISON

Ramadan should be a joyous time for Muslim people around the world, but for those in prison it can be a particularly difficult and isolating period where Muslims are subject to heightened discrimination and often find it harder to practice their religion.

However, the experiences of Muslims in prison during Ramadan are not normally given a public hearing. This year to raise more awareness we launched a new series called the 'Realities of Ramadan in prison'. As part of this series, throughout Ramadan we released regular audio clips from interviews we held with Muslim people who were either currently in prison or who had recently been to prison.

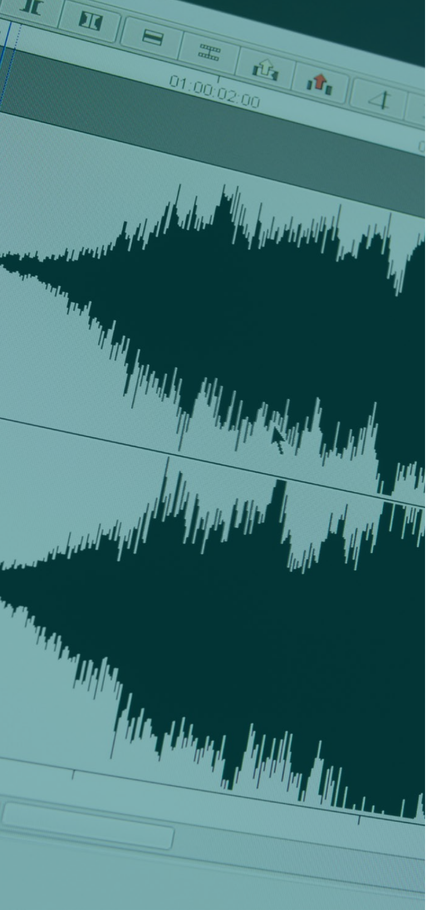
This gave voice to the experiences of Muslim prisoners in their own words and shone a spotlight on how they have been prevented from fully exercising their right to observe Ramadan. Each clip was accompanied by comic panels which powerfully illustrated what Muslims had endured.

The audio clips and comics were promoted on social media and uploaded to our website. They were shared widely and gained significant traction on twitter not just from those working in the criminal justice sector but from across sectors and engaged wider Muslim civil society.

The work was also featured in a guest blog written for Russell Webster – a platform widely used by those working in criminal justice. The blog highlighted the audio series and raised awareness amongst criminal justice front-line workers and decision-makers of the both the practical challenges of Ramadan in prison such as fasting around prison regimes and praying in shared cells with non-Muslims as well as the mental health and emotional impact.

To support this work and address the significant lack of knowledge in criminal justice and the voluntary sector about Ramadan and what this can mean for a Muslim person in prison, we also provided our partners with practical support. This included an additional resource sheet that we produced for Pact and additional material for Samaritan's training programme and in-house newsletter - which has a potential reach of up to 20,000 volunteers and 250 staff. Both these received positive feedback and in addition we also attending meetings with policymakers to highlight key issues and advice on solutions.

"I know members of the team have used the [Ramadan] information sheet in our resource pack, and it's great to have this there to refer to." Programme Manager, Helpline & Befriending, Pact



Covid-19

‘A MERCILESS LIGHT – COVID 19 IN NEWHAM’ AUDIO DOCUMENTARY

We produced a 30-minute audio documentary *‘A Merciless Light – Covid-19 in Newham’* that shares stories of how Covid 19 was experienced by Black and brown working-class communities in Newham in ways that have not been acknowledged or accounted for in official reviews and records. It explores the impact of Covid 19 in the context of pre-existing inequalities experienced in the borough of Newham.

You can listen to the documentary on the Maslaha Soundcloud account.

We have worked in Newham for over four years in our *Schools with Roots* work and early on in the pandemic it was revealed that Newham - which has the most ethnically diverse population of any borough in the country - was the hardest hit borough in the UK at that time.

The documentary was the result of community-led research into the impact of Covid-19 in Newham. We carried out research and interviews in Newham with over 30 community members and members of local renters unions, and domestic violence, homelessness and other front line services, as well as school staff, artists, activists and medical professionals.

We worked with a wide range of community partners and it was important to us to hire a community member Ghazal Haqani, to work with us to co-produce the documentary and carry out interviews.

The documentary explores the impact of Covid-19 in the context of pre-existing inequalities in the borough of Newham.

2. Influencing systemic change and replicating local success at a national level

Muslim Girls Fence

muslim girls fence

Through the project running in the Midlands, and working with our incredible coaches and partners, Ladywood Leisure centre in Birmingham has awarded us a free venue space for as long as it is needed. This is not only unheard of in terms of local provision, but it is also an incredible way of making the project more accessible to more people in the local Birmingham area. As well as hosting an art and photography exhibition from the Birmingham project in the leisure centre itself, it shows that untraditional spaces and untraditional relationships are what’s needed to remove some of the systemic and structural barriers to sport and physical activity and to create safe spaces for marginalised and racialised communities.

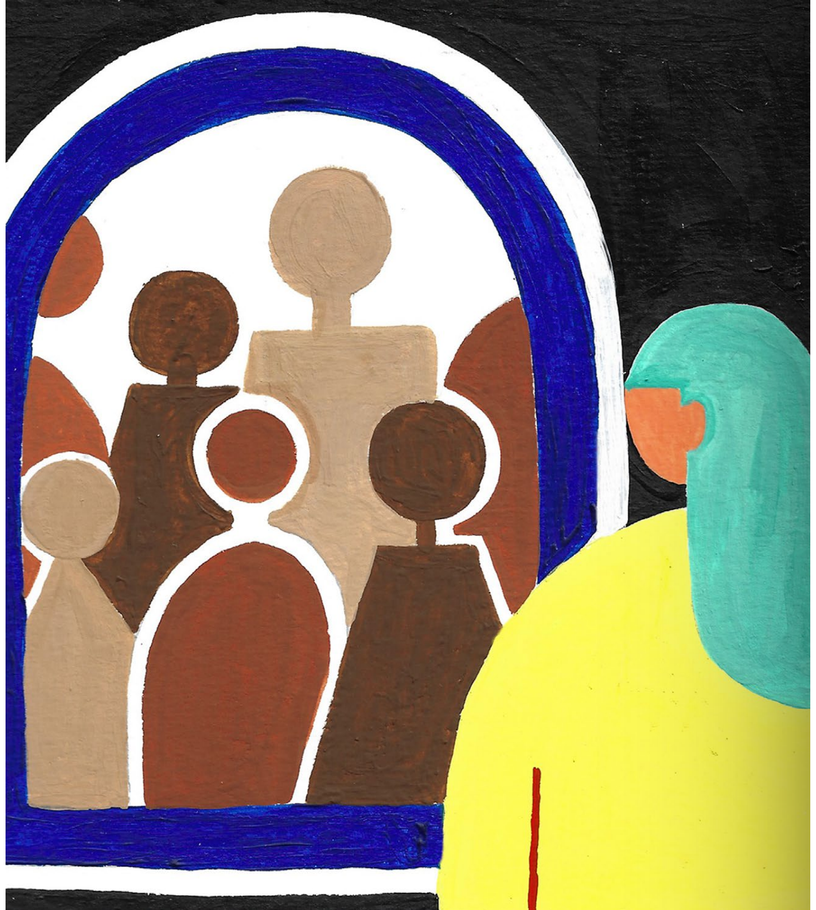
Collaborations and partnerships are extremely important to us, and especially our partnership with British Fencing. Working together for several years, we have built a trusting relationship and are currently working together on recruiting for a role that for British Fencing specifically focusses on the MGF project.

We have also built closer relationships with our fencing coaches, supporting them to make independent funding applications, and to also make their sessions and spaces sustainable. We are running leadership programmes with them and their participants, creating a space where our coaches can go on to become coach developers and run training programmes for other coaches and sports professionals, all with the values of the MGF project. With this in mind, we are also working closely with coaches and participants to set up fencing clubs that can continue to run for women and girls in the local area once the project has come to a close.

By sharing the creative outcomes from previous projects, we have also been invited to start project delivery in a number of schools in east London. We are currently planning and looking forward to commencing delivery in September.

Over the last 12 months, MGF has been invited to speak at a number of events and has made several media appearances. Some of these include speaking on the BBC Women's Sport Show with Jeannette Kwakye; a twitter takeover for the Sport and Rec Alliance; presenting at the Women and Girl's Sport Conference; and appearing on BBC Woman's Hour and Times Radio to discuss the project and barriers to sport that all women face from the world stage of the Olympics to community, grassroots level. MGF also spoke at the Sports Unites Insight Webinar and a film screening and workshop for Muslim Scouts. Our film *'Nobody's Metaphor'* screened at several online events and was also nominated for the Research in Film Awards 2020, in the Inspiration Award Category.

MGF was also interviewed by journalist and writer Poorna Bell, and features in her book, *'Stronger: Everything I Knew About Women's Strength'*, published in April 2021.



Criminal Justice

TACKLING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST MUSLIMS IN PRISON: MAKING THE CASE

Muslims make up 17% of the prison population compared to representing just 5% of the general population. Not only are they overrepresented in numbers but their experience, treatment and outcomes in prison are consistently more negative compared to non-Muslims. As shown by numerous reviews and annual reports published by the Chief Inspectorate of Prisons.

Our own research highlights the lack of understanding in the prison system of even the basic tenets of Islam and the religious and cultural needs of Muslim communities. This enables negative and crude stereotypes about Muslim people to flourish. These stereotypes are linked to a narrative of radicalisation and extremism, creating a climate of Islamophobia and suspicion in prison. We found this led to heightened scrutiny and policing of Muslims in prison, misinterpretation of their actions, and attempts to negate anything that appears 'too Islamic'.

Our current criminal justice programme aims to raise awareness of, and halt, this unequal and discriminatory treatment that Muslims experience in the prison system.

To do this we continue to seek proactive opportunities to promote and disseminate our research and be reactive to changes in the external environment so that the experience of Muslims in the prison system is not left as a periphery issue for officials, decision-makers, and other key stakeholders.

INFLUENCING OFFICIALS AND KEY STAKEHOLDERS

We have responded to a number of select committee inquiries to raise the inequalities experienced by Muslims in prison and highlight examples of our work with communities that can provide solutions. This is to increase external

Muslims make up 17% of the prison population compared to representing just 5% of the general population. Their experience, treatment and outcomes in prison are consistently more negative compared to non-Muslims.

pressure on the government to take action on the treatment of Muslims and encourage wider adoption of our approach.

We have continued to advocate for Muslim prisoners in meetings with the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS). Most recently MoJ have set up a group to provide advice on their programme of work to support faith in custody. We have been invited to the group to represent the experiences and needs of Muslims.

INFLUENCING THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR

We have been working to educate the mainstream voluntary sector on the discrimination Muslims face in the prison system and the ways in which their right to religion is undermined. By doing this we are influencing how the sector holds the prison system to account when it is unable to deliver its work to Muslim people because of the discrimination and racism they face.

As part of a series of Legal Action workshops delivered in partnership with Equal, the Criminal Justice Alliance and Liberty, we have delivered training and support to a number of grassroot organisations and networks working with racialised communities to develop their skills on influencing and creating change.

INFLUENCING FUNDERS

We have been influencing funders to tackle racial disparity and increase racial literacy and have been consulted on their approaches in several roundtables. We have also been invited to comment on the strategies and programmes of funders for example most recently we provided feedback on Barrow Cadbury Trust's strategy that they are currently reviewing.

INFLUENCING THE PUBLIC

We continue on an ongoing basis to gather more evidence on the experiences of Muslims in criminal justice by speaking to those directly impacted by the system and provide a platform for their voices.

By continuing to share these, it raises awareness of criminal justice in a way that resonates more powerfully with the public and engages wider Muslim civil society.

A coalition of charities have come together in partnership to campaign against the provisions in the Police, Crime, Sentencing, Courts Bill that will exacerbate racial inequality in the criminal justice system. We have supported the coalition to understand, and raise awareness about, the impact of the Bill on Muslim communities with the view of preventing these clauses from passing.

We have made a number of public statements in response to developments in criminal and social justice policy which have been shared through social media to promote understanding of the impact on Muslims, highlight discriminatory decision-making and develop understandings of the connections between social justice issues.

3. Educating and empowering Muslim and other marginalised communities

Schools with Roots

SCHOOLS WITH ROOTS TEACHER TRAINING

We carried out teacher training with PGCE primary school students at the University of East London (UEL) which involved two workshops. The first, *'Power and Positionality'*, looked at how racism manifests in schools. The second, *'Community Engagement'*, looked at how community engagement is central to anti-racism and offered teachers practical tools from our *Schools with Roots* programme that they can take into their schools and classrooms in the future.

This was an important step for us as we believe that it is important for this content to be a core part of a teacher's training during their formative training years, as opposed to an add-on training later in their careers.

The sessions we delivered were online and were well attended with over 130 students attending each session. We had extremely positive feedback, this included:

"Very insightful, could have sat here for hours listening and taking notes' and another saying, 'the sessions were extremely informative and gave great detail to the lives of others. I really enjoyed it."

"Really enjoyed the sessions and found them super informative while also easy to follow."

"Just please keep delivering these sessions but to schools that are not only in multi-cultural areas. Awareness needs to be instilled throughout the country."

"Your discussion on Power and Positionality gave me a different view on young children's life and the impact of the Euro-centric curriculum on their life."

"The training sessions have made me think differently about my approach to teaching. There are things that I need to consider that I may not have thought about before. Especially useful for me, being a white person who grew up in Ireland where it was predominantly white catholic."

We have had positive feedback from the schools we work with about how helpful the films have been in supporting parents.

We are now working with UEL to deliver similar sessions in next academic year with secondary as well as primary school teacher trainees. These are scheduled for the autumn term. Looking ahead, we want to continue working with PGCE students and to make this offer available to as many universities as possible.

COMMUNITY FUND AND COVID EMERGENCY WORK WITH SCHOOLS

We received a grant from Comic Relief to administer a community fund worth £13,500 in total which we were able to give directly to families and communities in Newham, in whatever form was most useful for them. We worked with parents who we know well from our schools work to identify parents in need, as well as with partner schools in Newham, Sandringham Primary School and Woodgrange Infant School. We also worked with local grassroots groups such as Magpie Project and London Renters Union to reach families in difficult situations.

The fund meant that we were able to support families - the majority of whom had No Recourse to Public Funds - with cash payments to pay bills and buy food vouchers as well as laptops, tablets and support to cover WiFi costs for families. For example, we were able to distribute money directly to 23 families with No Recourse to Public Funds. We were able to gift 35 families with tablets and laptops so their children could participate in home learning, and we donated over £1000 for a uniform bank at Sandringham that included shoes, coats, and uniform items.

MULTI-LINGUAL ACCESSIBLE RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS

We have continued to work with partner schools, including Sandringham Primary School in Forest Gate, Beeches Primary School in Peterborough, and Poplar's Farm Primary School in Bradford to creat accessible, multi-lingual resources that support families. During the first lockdown the schools contacted us with particular concerns around supporting parents to support their children with literacy, using Zoom and Google Classroom, and e-safety.

- **FOR LITERACY** We worked closely with teachers to create two short films - one for early years and one for Key Stage 1 and 2. These films focus on accessible, easy activities that can be done to support literacy at home, with a particular focus on families who do not have English as a first language. The films stress the value of bilingualism and offer a range of activities and games that can be done in any language and that will support children with their literacy and oracy.
- **FOR ZOOM AND GOOGLE CLASSROOM** We knew tutorials existed for these platforms and yet families were still struggling because these were not translated into other languages and they were not presented in accessible ways. Furthermore, these films were specifically for parents using Zoom/Google Classroom for school. We developed additional resources and have had positive feedback from the schools we work with about how helpful the films have been in supporting parents.

We worked with teachers to pinpoint the exact issues and areas of concern, to help parents navigate the online landscape, and feel equipped to support their child online.

- **FOR E-SAFETY** An area of concern raised by staff at Poplar's Farm Primary School and Beeches Primary School was E-safety and how parents have struggled more with this during lockdown and with children spending more time on devices. We worked with teachers to pinpoint the exact issues and areas of concern, to help parents navigate the online landscape, and feel equipped to support their child online.

We have also continued to add additional languages to the resources we made last year *'Getting Ready for Reception'* and *'Learning Through Play'*. These are now available in English, Turkish, Sylheti, Somali, Urdu, Slovak, Polish, Urdu, Portuguese, Spanish, French and Arabic.

We also supported Sandringham Primary School in making two multi-lingual films for parents about the transition from primary school to secondary school. This was an area that the school was particularly worried about as they usually have in-person sessions where staff guide parents and carers through the application process.

Our final resource this year has been a film, *'Anti-Racism From Day 1'*. This 10-minute, animated film provides advice to schools on how they can work to be anti-racist institutions, grounded in practical examples. We worked in partnership with Liz Pemberton, Director of The Black Nursery Manager LTD, a training & consultancy company whose mission is to promote inclusive practice in the Early Years (under 5's) education sector. It has a particular focus on how race, culture and anti-racism should be considered in this practice.

MFest

This year we were delighted to run MFest for the first time, having taken over the festival in 2020. We relaunched MFest virtually in May in partnership with the British Library as a community generated season of events and workshops.

MFest is a multi-arts festival of Muslim knowledge and creativity. We bring together artists, activists, thinkers, organisations and collectives to celebrate the collective power of diverse Muslim communities, connect with our roots and imagine thriving futures. At MFest we reclaim and recontextualise the diverse stories and histories that represent Muslim communities. We work with partners to explore and unlock existing archives - while also celebrating and acknowledging all the vital ways that embodied knowledge sustains and nourishes our communities.

We kicked off the festival with an event 'Connecting Anti-Racist Struggles' that brought together acclaimed speakers from France, the US and the UK, including: award-winning activist and journalist Rokhaya Diallo, Zarah Sultana MP and activist Hoda Katebi. The conversation was chaired by Aamna Mohdin of The Guardian.

In total we presented a season of 13 online events across May and June. Events ranged from Young Adult literature events to conversations on 'The Ethic of Loving' and 'Archiving for Ourselves' and discussions such as 'Telling Queer and Trans Muslim Stories' and 'Women's leadership in West African scholarship.' For our opening eight events on the British Library's media platform each event was viewed by audiences of between 161 – 230 people. Audiences tuned in from across the world, from India, Egypt, The Emirates, the US, Malaysia, Canada, Australia, Turkey and cities across Europe including Stockholm, Vienna, Helsinki and Paris.

We will be running further events in Autumn 2021 including the launch of the MFest commission with the British Library Sound Archives and events with the *Black Females in Architecture* collective.

A big part of our reimagined MFest is addressing the barriers to accessing arts for many Muslim and Black and brown communities so we focus on creating tangible opportunities and meaningful legacy through the festival. This year we focused on writing opportunities and launched the MFest Short Story Competition in partnership with Hajar Press and with generous support from Spread the Word and Arvon Foundation. The winner will receive a publishing contract with Hajar Press and an Arvon Residencies. Five runners up will receive developmental support from Spread the Word and Hajar Press.

We also launched the MFest Writers Lab which is a writing development programme for Muslim writers in the early stages of their career. A cohort of 12 Muslim writers (18 years +) will receive weekly sessions across Autumn 2021 on different writing mediums from playwriting, comic-writing, screenwriting, and novel-writing with a range of different partners including Soho Theatre, Spread the Word, SelfMadeHero and We Are Bridge.

As part of MFest we commissioned a wide range of artists and curators and we will be working with a wide range of partners to shape the festival going forward. MFest 2021 was featured across a range of BBC regional radio stations and on ArtsProfessional. Stance Podcast have produced an MFest special episode that will aired in July 2021 and will be available on its website.

We bring together artists, activists, thinkers, organisations and collectives to celebrate the collective power of diverse Muslim communities, connect with our roots and imagine thriving futures.

At MFest we reclaim and recontextualise the diverse stories and histories that represent Muslim communities.

4. Building a well-functioning organisation with financial and organisational sustainability

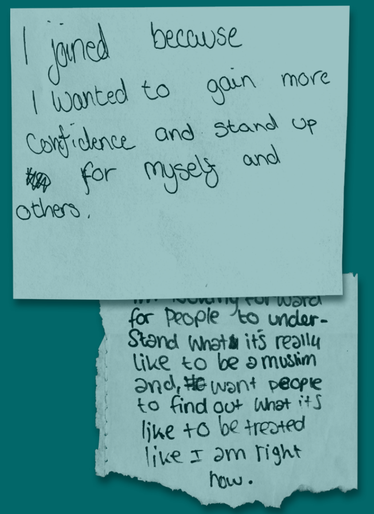
MEDIA/ APPEARANCES

- The Women's Sport Show - Shaheen Kasmani in discussion with Jeannette Kwakye (August 2020)
- Sport and Rec Alliance - twitter takeover by Muslim Girls Fence August 2020)
- The Research in Film Awards 2020 – Nobody's Metaphor shortlisted for Inspiration Award Category (October 2020)
- Gal-dem - Ramadan resources for conscious community-building in 2021 (April 2021).
- Book - featured in *Stronger: Changing Everything I Knew About Women's Strength* by Poorna Bell Published (April 2021)
- Prospect – coverage of Maslaha's research on the experience of Muslims in prison (April 2021).
- Russell Webster – blog on the 'Realities of Ramadan' for Muslim people in prison (April 2021).
- Each Other – coverage of interview on the religious discrimination Muslims in prison face (June 2021).
- Times Radio - Muslim Girls Fence with Phil Williams (July 2021)
- BBC Woman's Hour - Muslim Girls Fence (July 2021)

EVENTS

- *Nobody's Metaphor* Film Premiere Screening and Q&A – Attended b140 people (July 2020) Muslim Girls Fence team.
- *Nobody's Metaphor* Screening and Q&A at the Women and Girls in Sport Conference - Imagine, Believe, Achieve – held by the Sport & Rec Alliance. Attended by 100 people (July 2020) Muslim Girls Fence team.
- *Nobody's Metaphor* Screening, Panel and Q&A at TedxToronto (August 2020) Shaheen Kasmani.
- *Nobody's Metaphor* Screening & Panel with Suhaiymah Manzoor-Khan, Yashmin Harun and Binni at Bournemouth University. Attended by 130 students. (September 2020) Muslim Girls Fence team.
- Presenter at Sports Unites Insight FortnightWebinar (September 2020) Shaheen Kasmani
- Panellist and presenter, alongside David Lammy MP and others, at Prisoners' Education Trust conference for the three-year anniversary of the Lammy Review (September 2020) Raheel Mohammed.

- *Nobody's Metaphor* Screening and panellist at the Muslim Women's Sports Network (October 2020) Maryam Abdullah.
- Partner and expert consultation on girls' participation in sport with Women in Sport for Sport England's strategy (October 2020) Muslim Girls Fence team.
- Speaker at annual conference of Muslims in Britain Research Network (2020) Raheel Mohammed.
- Muslim Girls Fence featured in event Pop up in lock up: *'Transformative PE Practise'* led by Dr Shrehan Lynch. Attended by 106 people (February 2021) Shaheen Kasmani.
- *Nobody's Metaphor* screening for Muslim Scouts with and workshop delivered (February 2021) Suhaiymah Manzoor-Khan
- UK Coaching Expert Diversity Group meeting (February 2021) Maryam Abdullah
- Presenter at Legal Action Workshops for organisations working with Black, Asian and ethnic minority communties (March-July 2021) Lauren Nickolls.
- We have had a number of meetings with officials in relation to the tackling racial disparity in the criminal justice system and the needs of Muslims in prison.
- Attended a meeting of the RR3 – a voluntary sector advisory group to the Ministry of Justice and HMPPS – on meeting the needs of Muslim prisoners during Ramadan.
- We have taken part in several roundtables held by funders to support the development of their strategies and programmes for tackling racial disparity in the criminal justice system and supporting Black and brown communities.



Coming Up

Schools with Roots resources for primary schools on literacy and building stronger ties with families

Muslim Girls Fence workshops in schools focusing on mental health and the impact of racism, as well as influencing the wider sports sector and using sport as a tool for social change

Creating opportunities for Muslim writers at different stages of their careers through our arts festival MFest. This includes working with Arvon foundation, Spread the Word, and Soho theatre

Our criminal justice programme is continuing to work with vital services such as the Samaritans to ensure that they are meeting the immediate needs of Muslims in the prison system. We are also continuing to raise at a policy and public level the institutional racism that exists in the criminal justice system.

Thanks

Maslaha gratefully acknowledges funding in 2020/2021 from:

Pears Foundation

National Lottery

Barrow Cadbury

Lloyds Foundation

Noel Buxton Trust

A B Charitable Trust

Network for Social Change

Sport England

Comic Relief

Financial Summary

Financial Review

During the year 2021 Maslaha made a net profit of £84,181 (2019: £82,103) resulting in net assets of £373,295 (2020: £289,114)

The organisation has a number of multi-year grants with principal sources of funding from a variety of charitable foundations, as well as donations and consultancy work. All expenditure for

the year is directly related to fulfilling the aims and objectives of the funder's requirements.

Reserves Policy

In the Trustees' view, the reserves should provide the charity with adequate financial stability through maintaining sufficient reserves in liquid form to meet short term obligations. As Maslaha develops its own internal infrastructure, the reserve level will be reviewed to ensure sufficient to support the organisation to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future.

The trustees propose to maintain the charity's reserves at a level which is at least equivalent to three months overhead expenditure. This level has been set giving due regard to its manner of operation & likely funding streams. At present, this is taken as £50k. The Trustees acknowledge that as a small & growing organisation Maslaha may need to utilise reserves to support cash flow; this is permitted in the following circumstances:

- To support cash flow during a timing discrepancy within a project which is demonstrably on budget overall;
- To cover unexpected or unforeseen costs that need to be borne by the organisation.

If either of the above are triggered and would be deemed to de-stabilise the organisation, a case is to be put to trustees for consideration and authorisation prior to spend.

The Trustees regularly review the amount of reserves that are required to ensure that they are adequate to fulfil the charity's continuing obligations.

Legal and Admin

The objects of the Charity are:

- to advance the education of the public in the subject of the Islamic faith and its practice and to there- by promote a greater awareness and understanding of Islam and its daily practice amongst Muslims and non-Muslims alike;
- and to promote equality and diversity for the public benefit in particular but not exclusively by:

  (a) raising public sector awareness and understanding of Islam and the need for services that are appropriately tailored for and sensitive to the practices of Muslim com munities; and

  (b) promoting and informing dialogue, debate and greater understanding between Muslims and non-Muslims on issues of cohesion and integration. In practice this is achieved through our approach.

Our team

Raheel Mohammed – Director
Latifa Akay – Education Director
Emily Mason – Senior Project Manager
Shaheen Kasmani – Senior Project Manager
Lauren Nickolls – Senior Project Manager
Alaa Alsaraji – Project Manager
Maryam Abdullah – Project Manager
Zain Dada – Programme Manager
Suleman Amad – Project Co-ordinator

Our trustees

Emran Mian - Chair
Aliyyah Begum Nasser
Jane Earl
Martin Rose
Sameer Rahim
Isabel Lucena

Our address

Maslaha

Oxford House
Derbyshire Street
London E2 6HG

Bank details

HSBC Bank PLC

465 Bethnal Green Road,
Bethnal Green, London E2 9QW

Independent examiner

Anthony Epton
BA FCA CTA FCIE

Goldwins Chartered accountants
75 Maygrove Road, West
Hampstead,
London NW6 2EG

Report of the trustees

The Trustees are required by law to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which show a true and fair view of the financial activities of the company and of its financial position at the end of that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and with applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on an ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accountancy records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the company and to 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.

Public Benefit

The principle objects of the charity during the year are stated in the Legal & Admin section of this report. The trustees are aware of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit reporting as set out in Section 17 Charities Act 2011. The Trustees believe that the charity achieves a public benefit as detailed elsewhere in this report.

Approved by and signed on behalf oh the trustees, on 24 January 2022:

Emran Mian

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Maslaha for the year ended 31 March 2021

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Anthony Epton BA FCA CTA FCIE

Goldwins Chartered accountants
75 Maygrove Road, West Hampstead,
London NW6 2EG

Date: 26/01/2022

Accounts

Maslaha
Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total Funds £	2020 Total Funds £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	**25**	-	**25**	71
Charitable activities	4	**83,725**	**352,313**	**436,038**	368,509
Other trading activities	5	**1,400**	-	**1,400**	2,053
Total income		**85,150**	**352,313**	**437,463**	370,633
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	**58,731**	**294,551**	**353,282**	288,530
Total expenditure		**58,731**	**294,551**	**353,282**	288,530
Net income for the year	7	**26,419**	**57,762**	**84,181**	82,103
Transfers between funds		**-**	**-**	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**26,419**	**57,762**	**84,181**	82,103
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		**114,584**	**174,530**	**289,114**	207,011
Total funds carried forward		**141,003**	**232,292**	**373,295**	289,114

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 16 to the financial statements.

Maslaha

Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	**12**		-		709
Current assets:					
Debtors	**13**	**45,210**		57,016	
Cash at bank and in hand		**343,083**		243,436	
		388,293		300,452	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**14**	**14,998**		12,047	
Net current assets			**373,295**		288,405
Total net assets	**15**		**373,295**		289,114
Funds	**16**				
Restricted funds			**234,134**		174,530
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds		**139,161**		114,584	
Total unrestricted funds			**139,161**		114,584
Total funds			**373,295**		289,114

For the year ending 31 March 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.The directors acknowledge their responsibility for.complying with the requirements of the Act withrespect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companiessubject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the trustees on 24 January 2022
and signed on their behalf by:

Emran Mian
Trustee

Company registration no. 7309979

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

Maslaha

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

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 - effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

b) Reconciliation with previously Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP)

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was required.

c) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

d) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. Income received in advance for the provision of specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is a treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

e) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

f) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

g) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted 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 Accounting policies (continued)

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise of trading costs and the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 6.

j) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Computer equipment	on 3 years straight line

k) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

l) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

m) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2020 Total Funds £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	71	-	71
Charitable activities:			
Grants			
Network for Social Change	17,225	-	17,225
Pears Foundation	50,000	-	50,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust	-	9,750	9,750
Sports England	-	43,967	43,967
Lloyds Foundation	-	87,480	87,480
Porticus Foundation	-	110,000	110,000
Comic relief/GLA	-	50,087	50,087
Other income	2,053	-	2,053
Total income	69,349	301,284	370,633
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities:	40,982	247,548	288,530
Total expenditure	40,982	247,548	288,530
Net income / expenditure before gains / (losses) on investments	28,367	53,736	82,103
Net gains / (losses) on investments	-	-	-
Net income / expenditure	28,367	53,736	82,103
Transfers between funds	-	-	-
Net income / (expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses	28,367	53,736	82,103
Net movement in funds	28,367	53,736	82,103
Total funds brought forward	86,217	120,794	207,011
	114,584	174,530	289,114

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**2021 Total Funds £**	2020 Total Funds £
Donations	25	-	**25**	71
	25	-	**25**	71

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**2021 Total Funds**	2020 Total Funds
	£	£	**£**	£
Income earned from charitable activities				
Grants				
Network for Social Change	-	-	**-**	17,225
Pears Foundation	50,000	-	**50,000**	50,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust	-	29,250	**29,250**	9,750
Sports England	-	12,069	**12,069**	43,967
Lloyds Foundation	-	-	**-**	87,480
Porticus Foundation	-	60,000	**60,000**	110,000
National Lottery	-	99,990	**99,990**	-
COVID-19 Response	-	34,504	**34,504**	-
Noel Buxton Trust	15,000	-	**15,000**	-
AB Charitable Trust	15,000	-	**15,000**	-
Stichting Events Foundation	-	21,750	**21,750**	-
Misc	3,725	-	**3,725**	-
Comic Relief/GLA	-	94,750	**94,750**	50,087
Total income from charitable activities	83,725	352,313	**436,038**	368,509

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**2021 Total Funds**	2020 Total Funds
	£	£	**£**	£
Consultancy fees	1,400	-	**1,400**	2,053
	1,400	-	**1,400**	2,053

6 Analysis of expenditure

	Charitable activities	**2021 Total**	2020 Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	247,929	**247,929**	202,157
Direct cost			
Consultancy		-	147
Insurance		**-**	380
Depreciation	709	**709**	708
Project costs	87,280	**87,280**	66,301
Publicity & Reports	3,780	**3,780**	150
Support cost			
Office costs	4,309	**4,309**	4,680
Governance cost			
Bank charges	77	**77**	82
Examiner's fees	885	**885**	850
Accountancy fees	8,313	**8,313**	13,075
Total expenditure 2021	353,282	**353,282**	288,530
Total expenditures 2020	288,530	288,530	

Of the total expenditure, £58,731 was unrestricted (2020: £40,982) and £294,551 was restricted (2020: £247,548).

Analysis of expenditure-prior year

	Charitable activities	2020 Total	2019 Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	202,157	202,157	203,835
Direct cost			
Workshop	-	-	7,168
Consultancy	147	147	1,385
Management charges	-	-	1,140
Insurance	380	380	506
Depreciation	708	708	708
Project costs	66,301	66,301	107,810
Publicity & Reports	150	150	1,866
Support cost			
Office costs	4,680	4,680	3,313
Governance cost			
Bank charges	82	82	229
Examiner's fees	850	850	900
Accountancy fees	13,075	13,075	6,624
Total expenditure 2020	288,530	288,530	335,484

7 Net incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging / crediting:

	2021	2020
	£	**£**
Independent Examiner's fees	**885**	850
Depreciation	**709**	708

8 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

Staff costs were as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	**£**
Salaries and wages	**216,465**	176,707
Social security costs	**20,297**	14,248
Staff pension costs	**9,155**	7,698
Other staff costs	**2,012**	3,504
	247,929	202,157

The total employee benefits including pension contributions of the key management personnel were £69,883 (2020: £65,169).

No employees earned more than £60,000 per annum.

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2020: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2020: £nil).

No trustees received any payment or reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs.

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2021	2020
	No.	No.
Charitable activity	**3.0**	3.0
Support	**1.5**	1.5
Governance	**0.5**	0.5
	5.0	5.0

10 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

11 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

Maslaha
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2021

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Office Equipment	**Total**
	£	**£**
Cost		
At the start of the year	2,824	**2,824**
Additions in year	-	-
Disposals in year	-	-
At the end of the year	2,824	**2,824**
Depreciation		
At the start of the year	2,115	**2,115**
Charge for the year	709	**709**
Eliminated on disposal	-	-
At the end of the year	2,824	**2,824**
Net book value		
At the end of the year	-	-
At the start of the year	709	709

13 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accured income	**45,210**	57,016
	45,210	57,016

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Taxation & social security	**11,672**	4,611
Pension liabilities	**1,126**	661
Accruals	**2,200**	6,775
	14,998	12,047

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General Unrestricted funds	**Designated Funds**	**Restricted Funds**	**Total funds**
	£	£	£	**£**
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	**-**
Net current assets	**139,161**	**-**	**234,134**	**373,295**
Net assets at the end of the year	**139,161**	-	**234,134**	**373,295**

Analysis of net assets between funds-prior year

	General Unrestricted funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,834	-	-	2,834
Net current assets	83,383	-	120,794	204,177
Net assets at the end of the year	86,217	-	120,794	207,011

16 Movements in funds

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Barrow Cadbury	**3,677**	**29,250**	**(15,324)**	**1,842**	**19,445**
Comic Relief Recovery	**-**	**39,250**	**(31,801)**	**-**	**7,449**
Covid-19 Response	**-**	**34,504**	**(16,767)**	**-**	**17,737**
National Lottery	**-**	**99,990**	**(40,757)**	**-**	**59,233**
Stichting Events Foundation	**-**	**21,750**	**(750)**	**-**	**21,000**
Sports England	**32,506**	**12,069**	**(44,575)**	**-**	**-**
Porticus Foundation	**66,284**	**60,000**	**(60,536)**	**-**	**65,748**
Lloyds Foundation	**69,536**	**-**	**(38,995)**	**-**	**30,541**
Comic Relief/GLA	**2,528**	**55,500**	**(45,046)**	**-**	**12,982**
Total restricted funds	**174,530**	**352,313**	**(294,551)**	**1,842**	**234,134**
General funds					
Total Unrestricted Funds	**114,584**	**85,150**	**(58,731)**	**(1,842)**	**139,161**
Total unrestricted funds	**114,584**	**85,150**	**(58,731)**	**(1,842)**	**139,161**
Total funds including pension fund	**289,114**	**437,463**	**(353,282)**	**-**	**373,295**

Movements in funds-prior year

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Barrow Cadbury	-	9,750	(6,073)	-	3,677
Sports England	29,367	43,967	(40,828)	-	32,506
Porticus Foundation	34,508	110,000	(78,224)	-	66,284
Lloyds Foundation	-	87,480	(17,944)	-	69,536
Comic Relief/GLA	-	50,087	(47,559)	-	2,528
Tide Foundation(Goodle Fund)	56,920	-	(56,920)	-	-
Total restricted funds	120,794	301,284	(247,548)	-	174,530
General funds					
Total Unrestricted Funds	86,217	69,349	(40,982)	-	114,584
Total unrestricted funds	86,217	69,349	(40,982)	-	114,584
Total funds including pension fund	207,011	370,633	(288,530)	-	289,114

Barrow Cadbury
The purpose of this grant is to improving vital services for Muslims in the prison system and highlighting systemic racism.

Porticus Foundation
Developing Maslaha methodologies and tools to challenge educational inequality in UK primary schools

Comic Relief
This is a continuation of Muslim girls Fence Project in London and Birmingham.

Google Foundtion of Tides Foundation
This is a continuation of Muslim girl Fence Project across 5 cities.

Comic Relief/GLA
This is a continuation of Muslim girls Fence Project in London.

Sports England
This is a continuation of Muslim girl Fence in the context of inactivity and economic disadvantage.

Lloyds Foundation
Improving vital services for Muslims in the prison system and highlighting systemic racism.

17 Operating lease commitments

At the balance sheet date, the charity had no financial commmitment under non-cancellable operating leases.

18 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2021 (2020: none).

Maslaha was incorporated as a limited liability company (7309979) on July 9th 2010 and was registered as a charity in England and Wales (1139560) on December 29th 2010.

maslaha