



## **Manchester Congolese Organisation Ltd (MaCO)**

**Annual Report of the Directors for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**Registered Charity Number: 1142798 | Company Number: 07564748**

### **1. Directors' Report**

The Directors present their annual report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025. The company is a private company limited by guarantee and a registered charity, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 18 February 2011. The overall management of the charity is the responsibility of the Directors, with day-to-day project activities delivered by dedicated volunteers.

### **2. Charity Details**

- **Company Name:** Manchester Congolese Organisation Ltd (MaCO)
- **Charitable Object:** To promote the benefit of Congolese citizens and other BAME in Manchester through the advancement of education, relief of poverty and sickness, promotion of good health, and provision of recreational facilities to improve conditions of life.
- **Registered Address:** Crossley Community Centre, 54 Crossley Street, Manchester M18 8BA
- **Banker:** HSBC Bank, 2-4 St Ann's Square, Manchester M2 7HD
- **Independent Examiner:** Louis Boffy, Accountant

### **2. Directors**

The Directors who served during the year and to the date of this report are:

- Angel Kaseka Kaleta (Chair) – Appointed 15/12/2019
- Augustin Kabeya M'Funyi (Vice Chair) – Appointed 15/12/2019
- Louison K. Kangombe (Secretary) – Appointed 15/12/2019
- Louis Bloomberg (Treasurer) – Appointed 15/12/2019
- Kayemba Mitenga – Appointed 15/12/2019
- Monique Likoy – Appointed 15/12/2019
- John Kayembe – Appointed 15/12/2019
- Lysette Kamuanya Tshimanga – Appointed 15/12/2019

## **1. Review of Activities and Achievements**

During the year, MaCO continued its vital work supporting the Congolese and wider BAME community in Manchester, focusing on integration, wellbeing, health, education, and employability. Key project outcomes include:

### **a) Education & Youth Development (Homework Club):**

- Supported **55 pupils** (Key Stages 1-4) through a weekly Saturday club, improving grades in Maths, English, Science, and ICT.
- Fostered social integration and confidence through educational trips, creative arts, sport and physical activities and events like a community picnic in Gorton Park. Improving mental health, preventing violence and crime
- Maintained strong attendance (75-90%) and active parental involvement, creating a supportive learning environment for children from diverse backgrounds, including asylum seekers and refugees.

### **b) Health & Wellbeing:**

- **Mental Health Project:** Successfully delivered workshops and befriending services at Crossley Community Centre, achieving 75-90% attendance. The project promoted social cohesion and reduced isolation among participants from various African and Asian communities.
- **Health Advocacy:** Provided ongoing support to asylum seekers and refugees in accessing NHS and healthcare services, leveraging volunteers' language skills and cultural knowledge.
- **Women's Health:** Continued partnership with the Black Health Agency and NHS to deliver culturally sensitive workshops on HIV prevention, contraception ("WALE" conferences) and cancer prevention

### **c) Employability & Financial Capability:**

- Equipped members with job-search skills, CV writing, and interview techniques, leading to successful employment outcomes for some beneficiaries.
- Provided financial advice and money management training to promote independence and reduce dependency on benefits.

**d) Over 50s activities**

- Effectively reduced isolation and improved digital literacy among older BAME community members, enhancing their ability to engage with modern society and access services. Recreational activities to improve mental health

**e) Food Bank**

Providing food parcels to beneficiaries in genuine need in partnership with Fareshare Manchester and providing culturally appropriate food parcels in partnership with RAFIKI organisation and BME Network.

**2. *Impact of the Rising Cost of Living***

The escalating cost of living has profoundly impacted our community, exacerbating existing disadvantages. MaCO has observed a significant increase in demand for:

- **Fuel and Energy Advice:** More families seeking support to manage soaring utility bills and achieve affordable warmth.
- **Financial and Debt Advice:** Increased need for income maximisation, benefit checks, and debt management planning.
- **Essential Support:** Greater reliance on our holistic advice services to navigate the compounded pressures on household budgets, mental health, and overall wellbeing. Our voluntary advice project is a critical frontline response to this crisis.

**3. *Governance, Volunteers, and Partnerships***

The charity is managed by the voluntary Board of Directors. Our work is delivered by a committed team of volunteers and a small number of paid sessional staff. We are grateful for their dedication.

We have strengthened key partnerships with organisations including Manchester Refugee Support Network (MRSN), Manchester City Council, Caribbean Health Network, NHS and Manchester Mental Health and Social Care Trust, Community Assets Transfer Cooperative (CASC) and various local funders, which are crucial to our service delivery.

#### **4. *Financial Review***

The company is a non-trading organisation. The attached accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime. The Directors confirm that they have complied with the duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF MANCHESTER CONGOLESE ORGANISATION (MaCO)**

I report on the accounts of Manchester Congolese Organisation (MaCO) for the year ended 31/03/2025

### **Respective responsibilities of directors and examiner**

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The directors consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the account under section 144 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedure laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity commission under section 145(5) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether the particular matters have come to my attention

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Direction given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charitable Organisation and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as directors or trustees concerning any such matters.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

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

(1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirement:

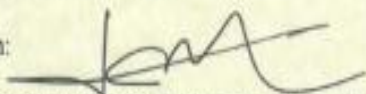
- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the company Act 2006; and
- To prepare accounts with accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirement of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charitable Organisations.

Have not been met; or

(2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: LOUIS BOFFY

Sign:



Date: 02/09/2025

Address: Flat 9 Dean Court Kingston Road KT5 9NY

Relevant professional qualification or body: AAT




**MANCHESTER CONGOLESE ORGANISATION LTD**  
**STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES AND BALANCE SHEET**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL 2025	TOTAL 2024
	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
Charitable Activities		68,485	68,485	55,989
Other Income	7,745		7,745	6,972
Members Contribution			-	
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	7,745	68,485	76,230	62,962
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
Costs of Generating Funds	-	-	-	-
Charitable Activities		71,512	71,512	71,626
Governance Costs				
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	-	71,512	71,512	71,626
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>	7,745	(3,027)	4,717	(8,665)
<b>BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD</b>		50,600	50,600	59,265
<b>FUNDS AT THE END OF YEAR</b>	7,745	47,573	55,317	50,600

Approved by trustees on the 31/08/2025 and signed on their behalf by:

The Chairperson

  
 VICE-CHAIR

The Treasurer

  
 HARRIS BLOOMBERG

**MANCHESTER CONGOLESE ORGANISATION LTD****BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

BALANCE SHEET YEAR ENDED 31/03/2025	2025	2024
Tangible Assets	£	£
Equipments	26,679	26,679
Acc depreciation	8,600	6,135
	<u>18,079</u>	<u>20,544</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Prepaid Expenses	24,742	-
Bank	12,497	30,056
Cash in Hand		
<b>Total Asset</b>	<u>55,317</u>	<u>50,600</u>
Less Current Liabilities		
Net Asset	55,317	50,600
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>55,317</b>	<b>50,600</b>
<b>Funds</b>		
Unrestricted Funds	7,745	2,002
Restricted Funds	47,573	48,598
<b>Total Funds</b>	<u>55,317</u>	<u>50,600</u>

For the period ending 31 March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Company act 2006 relating to small companies

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts


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

Approved by the trustees on the 31/08/2025 and signed on their behalf by:

The Chairperson

  
VICE-CHAIR

The Treasurer

 HARS BLOOMBERG



**Cost of charitable activities**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Stationery and Administration	881	982
Volunteers Expenses	12,732	16,453
Telephone and Internet	981	969
Wages	20,130	19,980
Water charges	1,020	1,092
Repair and Maintenance	4,431	3,210
Building Refurbishment	1,340	1,242
Travel Expenses	11,876	11,657
Publicity and Advert	3,461	1,870
Consultants		
Covid19 Community Subsistence		
Gas	521	484
Computers, Printers and TVs		
Legal and Professional		
Depreciation	2,465	2,801
Refreshment and sundry expenses	11,674	10,886
Total	<u>71,512</u>	<u>71,626</u>

**Tangible Assets**

The Covid 19 pandemic has had some costs impacts in the operations of our organisation. During the year 2020 - 2021 and 2021 -2022 we incurred high costs of fixed assets acquisitions to enable us cope with the government lockdown scheme and isolation. These fixed assets namely, the computers, tablets, printers, mobile phones and other related equipments have enabled us to resolve the challenges of remote work, video conferences, communication, the education of our home work club's pupils, and the isolation within our community.

**Taxation**

The company is a charity and therefore no taxation provision is required

**Wages and Staff Costs**

Wages are allocated according to the functions of each staff member and therefore, form part of training costs and charitable expenditure, as appropriate.

Wages are directly paid to the sessional workers considered as contractors to MaCO.

**Charitable Activities**

The operating costs include staff costs, rent and other related costs. All costs are allocated in the activities in furtherance of the charity's objects and other costs.

Most costs incurred by the organisation are directly attributable to individual activities. Where costs are not directly attributable to particular activities,

they are apportioned pro rata to the total direct costs of activities

or, in the case of shared offices costs, on the basis of the space occupied.

			TOTAL	TOTAL
INCOMING RESOURCES			2025	2024
			£	£
Big Lottery (Award for All)	-	-	19,848	-
BBC Children in Need			-	10,000
Room Hire Income			7,745	6,511
Esc Lottery			-	12,480
Amani Creative			-	350
Baobab Foundation			14,846	14,846
Global Fund Foundation			21,982	
Manchester BME Net			2,150	800
Mango Pay - Crowdfund			1,140	-
Lingua GM CIC			-	600
Casc Workshop			-	480
Train & SPT4 SVCS			-	1,040
Greater Manchester GMCVO			3,719	9,859
Members Contribution			800	461
People Health Trust			-	3,584
Manchester City Council			-	1,950
NHS Greater			4,000	-
<b>Total</b>	-	-	<b>76,230</b>	<b>62,962</b>

#### **Basis of preparation of financial statements**

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019. The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page three.

#### **Fund accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

#### **Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income. Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of specific performance by the Charity, are recognised when the Charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the Charity where this can be quantified.

#### **Resources expended**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

#### **Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their

estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:

Furniture, fittings and equipment - 5 years

Computer equipment - 3 years

All fixed assets costing more than £400 are capitalised. Computer software costs are not capitalised.



### *5. The company's policy on reserves*

When creating a reserve policy, we are particularly interested in creating a pot of money that is available to cover gaps in funding – cash flow and meeting costs such as volunteer transport allowances.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirement of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of account.

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

### *6. Principal Challenges and Future Outlook*

The principal challenge remains **financial constraint**, which has limited the full operation of some projects, such as our Socio-Cultural programme. Securing sustainable core funding is essential for our future.

Despite this, MaCO has demonstrated resilience and a strong track record of impact. The Directors are committed to building on this year's successes, consolidating partnerships, and seeking further funding to continue and expand our vital services for the community.

Manchester Congolese Organisation would like to thank the following Organisations for their support during the year 2024/2025

BBC Children in Need  
Big lottery (Awards for all)  
Manchester City Council  
CASC Manchester  
Phoenix Way Foundation  
Baobab Foundation  
NHS  
GMCVO  
Manchester BME NET.

Many thanks to our members for their continual support, and we thank to every individual supporter and other local organisations who have been supporting us during the year 2024-2025

The directors declare that they have approved the directors' report above

Office Contact Details:

***Crossley Community Centre***

54 Crossley Street

Gorton, Manchester

M18 8BA

Tel: 01615469926/ 07951425054