MIGRANT VOICE

England & Wales · Charity number 1142963

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	07154151
Registered	2011-07-19
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Migrant Voice Vai 200a Pentonville Road London N1 9JP
Phone	0207 832 5824
Email	info@migrantvoice.org
Website	www.migrantvoice.org

Activities

Objects: (1) to advance education amongst migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, by the provision of training, advice and support, especially around media work; and(2) to advance the education of the public in general and the media about the issues relating to migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.(3) To promote equality and diversity by the provision of activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds and to cultivate a sentiment in favour of equality and diversity

Activities: Migrant Voice works to increase the skills, capacity and confidence of members of migrant communities (including refugees and asylum seekers) with the aim to engage migrants in developing and conveying key messages about their realities in order to promote a more balanced media coverage and public debate on migration and to encourage integration of migrant communities with the wider public.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£450,572	£452,716	-	-
2024-03-31	£386,662	£425,434	-	-
2023-03-31	£340,296	£311,069	-	-
2022-03-31	£206,887	£300,309	-	-
2021-03-31	£474,230	£318,631	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Habib Rahman	Chair	2013-12-02
Andre Rafael dos Santos		2025-06-16
MUHAMMAD IMMAN Ali		2025-06-16
Maurice Aden Wren		2014-01-06
Prof Ferdinando Sigona		2017-10-13
Sarojini Doris Chetty		2020-12-01
Sook Fun TAYLOR		2016-02-11
WILFRED HYDE SULLIVAN		2020-12-01

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MIGRANT VOICE

England & Wales - Charity number 1142963

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1142963 (England and Wales)
Charity Registration No. SC050970 (Scotland)

Company Registration No. 07154151 (England and Wales)

MIGRANT VOICE

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

MIGRANT VOICE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)	
	Mr Maurice Wren	
	Ms Sofi Taylor (Vice Chair)	
	Prof Ferdinando Sigona	
	Mr Wilfred Sullivan	
	Ms Dorrie Chetty (Vice Chair)	
	Mr Andre Rafael dos Santos	(Appointed 16 June 2025)
	Mr Muhammad Imman Ali	(Appointed 16 June 2025)
Secretary	Mrs Nazek Ramadan Moussa	
Charity number	1142963 (England and Wales)	
Charity number (Scotland)	SC050970	
Company number	07154151	
Registered office	VAI, 200a Pentonville Road London United Kingdom N1 9JP	
Independent examiner	Reddy Siddiqui LLP 183-189 The Vale Acton London United Kingdom W3 7RW	

MIGRANT VOICE

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 13
Independent examiner's report	14
Statement of financial activities	15
Balance sheet	16
Notes to the financial statements	17 - 25

MIGRANT VOICE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with Migrant Voice's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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 2019)".

Objectives and activities

1. To advance education amongst migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, by the provision of training, advice and support, especially around media work.
2. To advance the education of the public in general and the media about the issues relating to migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.
3. To promote equality and diversity by the provision of activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds and to cultivate a sentiment in favour of equality and diversity.

We are a migrant-led national organisation, which builds a community of migrant voices to speak for ourselves and call for justice for all. We work with all types of migrants, including refugees and asylum-seekers, across the UK.

We strive to create a society where migrants have full equality and achieve positive change for migrants – countering racism and xenophobia, discrimination, and unjust policies, bringing communities together and bringing social justice - change which benefits the whole of UK society.

To achieve this, migrants need to build collective power and influence, ensure our rights are protected and have a seat at the decision-making table to set the agenda on migration.

Our mutually interconnected methodologies, guided by our Theory of Change, are:

- We build a bigger, stronger and deeper community of migrant voices across the UK via our Migrant Voices for Change Network, made up of regional hubs;
- We strengthen migrants' ability to influence and shape the media and public debate through training, brokering stories to the media and working with journalists and editors;
- We develop and conduct migrant-led campaigns and advocacy to change law and policy and individual outcomes, that are accountable to participating migrants;
- We facilitate and act as an anchor for migrant-led initiatives of a wider migration justice movement in alliance with other movements, by convening, collaboration, capacity-building and representation.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities Migrant Voice (MV) should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit.

Our Theory of Change (TOC) guides all our work. In accordance with this, Migrant Voice has planned and run a series of successful projects and activities in this period to achieve our objectives.

Core organisational activities

It is particularly the grants from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, John Ellerman Foundation, The Tudor Trust, the AB Charitable Trust, and Esmee Fairbairn Foundation that contribute to our core costs towards the implementation of our strategy. This has ensured our success in providing a platform for migrants to engage with the media and with policymakers, and to contribute to the public debate on migration. By putting migrant voices at the centre of the debate, we aim to develop greater understanding and support for migrants' rights and pursue policy change to achieve those rights.

The core funding provided stability for the organisation, enabling us to implement our strategy 2022-2027, and to strengthen the organisational, financial and administrative systems, and our strategic communications. It has also ensured the continuity of the work, particularly our UK Migrant Voices for Change Network in the three regions (London, West Midlands and Glasgow) and enabled us to continue to pay core staff and to successfully apply for new funding.

Key organisational development in this period:

- We have worked with a consultant with the support of the Paul Hamlyn Foundation to review and strengthen the way we capture impact and learning.
- We have held two reflection days as a staff team to reflect on our impact, discuss any challenges and strengthen our interconnected working as a team in a national organisation. We have also organised a number of staff training.
- We have undertaken a consultation with our membership on their current needs, interests, how they want to engage with us and what kind of activities are most beneficial to them. We also looked at how they consume media/news and social media.
- All the above are part of our ongoing learning process, but has particular significance at this point in time around our 15th anniversary as we reflect on changes in our work, context, our achievements and where we go next. In 2025/26 we will be building on this and further discussions to update key areas of our strategy.
- We have developed a new staff handbook, including a review of all policies in light of recent employment law changes, together with an employment law firm. This service has been funded for us by the Barrow Cadbury Trust for five years.

As a result of the core funding, our Director and the staff team have continued to build stronger alliances and partnerships while also engaging with media, academics, policymakers, unions, and other civil society organisations.

Partnerships

This year saw us stepping up our collaboration with organisations and groups in the sector on key areas of work in line with our Strategic Plan, and to address emerging topics and opportunities. The partnership engagement is a valuable part of our work, leading to the sharing of knowledge and expertise, organising joint events, and collaborating on joint letters and policy asks. We include some examples below:

We continued to strengthen our existing working relationships as well as meet with new groups and organisations to explore collaboration and avoid duplication. This includes the following:

- *London*: Islington Refugees and Migrants forum, Union Chapel, Haringey Migrant Support Centre, Migrant Democracy Project, Action for Race Equality, WalingWaling, Faiths Forum for London, and Southeast and East Asian Centre.
- *Glasgow:* Glasgow Museums, Central West Integration Network, Garnethill Multicultural Centre, UNESCO RILA (Refugee Integration Through Languages & Art), University of Glasgow, University of West of Scotland, Community InfoSource, I Welcome Club, Glasgow Clyde College, Maryhill Burgh Halls, Glasgow City Council, University of Strathclyde, Radical Glasgow Tours and the Scottish Refugee Council.

- *West Midlands*: Hope Projects, POMOC, The University of Birmingham, Centrala, the Journey group, Coventry Asylum and Refugee Action Group (Carag), Birmingham City of Sanctuary and others.

- We continue to collaborate on joint statements and letters with other organisations in the sector on policy issues arising, including raising concerns about the state of asylum accommodation, the impact of the hostile political rhetoric on increasing division, on the far-right riots of summer 2024, and on the impact of visa costs. We also made a submission to the Public Bill Committee, in collaboration with Amnesty International, on the Border Security, Asylum and Immigration Bill and coordinated an open Letter on the need for better routes for regularisation – signed by 145 signatories.
- As part of our ongoing visa costs campaign, we continue to work with groups in the sector including, Praxis, RAMFEL, Reunite Families, Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, WeBelong, Project17 and Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit (GMIAU), to discuss how to raise the issue of visa and settlement process with cross-party politicians.
- We continued our collaboration with the Human Rights Consortium Scotland, which works to promote and defend human rights in Scotland. Our partnership aims to ensure that migrants are aware of their rights and are heard when developing human rights protections in the country. We ran workshops where migrants shared experiences of when their rights weren't respected or when they had no information about their rights. A zine on human rights has been produced as a result.
- We have an ongoing engagement with the # StatusNow4All network sitting on their reference group, and also engaging with the network's activities and development, co-organising conferences and delivering training.
- We spoke at numerous events with partners, including: 'Humanising Narratives Around Migration', an event by MIDEQ / PositiveNegatives, the conference, 'Migration: is the media getting it right' convened by the Migration and Displacement Hub at ODI global and the International Broadcasting Trust, and at the workshop 'Busting scapegoating myths and demanding safe routes' at the stand up to Racism Trade Union conference.

Our work with universities has also continued.

- We are partners on a major European research project led by the University of Westminster, which has held its first partnership meeting. The project, **'***The Crisis of Migration Discourse: Towards a Participatory New Lexicon of Migration'* will work in four countries to develop a new lexicon on migration, led by migrants, to contribute to changing the narrative. Migrant Voice will be delivering some of the training. The project is funded by HERA/CHANCE.
- We delivered workshops for students at the University of Westminster and separately spoke on the panel on knowledge exchange on research and other collaboration between universities and NGOs.

We hosted and spoke at the stakeholder meeting for the I-CLAIM research project, which explores the living and working conditions of migrants with precarious status in Europe. The I-CLAIM research is led by academic institutions in six European countries.

International partnerships and cooperation

- Migrant Voice is represented on the board of PICUM (Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants) and we continue to engage with the network's activities.
- We continue our engagement with the migrant-led Rise network (Refugee Ideas and Solutions for Europe).

UK Migrants for Change Network

We build a bigger, stronger, and deeper community of migrant voices via our UK Migrant Voices for Change Network (UKMVC), made up of regional hubs in London, West Midlands and Scotland. This network forms the foundation for our work.

Our network's membership is made up of migrants, including refugees and asylum seekers, from a diverse range of communities, alongside UK citizens, journalists, academics, and colleagues from the migration justice sector.

Through the Migrant Voice Network, via our regional hubs we:

- provide safe spaces that transforms migrants' experiences and stories into a collective demand through identification of shared problems and solutions;
- mobilise migrants and help forge connection between different migrant communities and with wider communities, building practical solidarity;
- run training sessions, Media Labs, discussions to increase migrants' knowledge, confidence, and skills to speak for ourselves;
- build partnerships with other organisations and stakeholders in the field of migration and social justice.

Network meetings and training are key to the UKMVC, as they create spaces for migrants from all backgrounds to come together to discuss issues affecting us, acquiring knowledge, and shaping collective action.

We have held network meetings across each of our three operating regions, London, Birmingham and Glasgow. It is through these meetings that our priorities emerge and are shaped. Multiple civil society organisations as well as people from different communities attend these events.

Network meetings in this period have included:

- We organised a national network meeting on the upcoming move from BRP and physical documents to E-visas, which brought together speakers from ILPA, the3Million, Refugee and Migrant Centre, Windrush Lives, Praxis and the Women's Integration Network. The meeting discussed the wider implications of this latest change to a 'digital only status', lessons learned from Windrush and the settlement scheme, looking at the wider positives/negatives around a digital only status, the risks of not being able to prove status.
- In response to the far-right violent riots in the UK in the summer of 2024 we organised online safe spaces for migrants in the West Midlands, and in London and the South East to discuss the impact on our communities. The meetings were spaces to share the deep anxiety and sense of insecurity felt in communities and to discuss the urgent need for meaningful actions.
- This was followed by a meeting in London convening key organisations and community leaders to look at how we can work together to stand up to hate and division. We heard from speakers from Action for Race Equality, Faiths Forum for London, IKWRO - Women's Rights Organisation, Coalition of Latin Americans in the UK), and /together. The meeting led to a number of actions to take forward in collaboration.
- We have organised three meetings in London, Birmingham and Glasgow for our Multimedia newspaper project to discuss and generate story ideas and actions.

Events

- International Migrants Day 2024: We organised events in our three regions, all with the theme of Migration Making Britain Great. The London event was a panel discussion including migrants, academics and Show Racism the Red Card followed by a celebration held at the University of Westminster. In Birmingham we had a panel of discussion with migrants sharing their experiences, followed by poetry reading and live music. In Glasgow we launched a photo exhibition 'Outside In' as part of the Putting Ourselves in the Picture Project. A series of migrant speeches introduced the event followed by celebration.
- 15th anniversary conference: In February, we held a national conference in London attended by 200 people from across the UK. Over the course of the two days we discussed "The state of migration: building the foundation for change". More than 30 speakers from around the world, including well known journalists, academics, and experts spoke across five panels and six workshops. Topics included the current state of the migration debate and how we can change it, how migrants are excluded from justice by the current systems, and bringing anti-racism into education. Workshops included media engagement, using creative tools, and campaigning on regularisation.

Media and advocacy training

Our training in speaking out in the media, to policy makers and the public, campaigning and advocacy form essential activities of the UKMVC network. We held media and advocacy training sessions in London Birmingham and Glasgow in person and online, both for our network members and with other organisations and groups.

Media training topics included preparing for an interview, preparing your message, photography, creating videos, blogging and creative writing.

Among the training sessions we organised and led were:

- Our Media Labs - including in London on photography and on pitching stories to the media; and in Glasgow on interviewing for podcasts, writing articles and editing audio interviews. Birmingham Media Labs focused on interview skills, messaging, podcasts and audiovisual content creation.
- As part of our 'Putting Ourselves in the Picture Project' in Glasgow we organised several training sessions regarding exhibition curating skills including a tour of the Hunterian Museum for participants to learn more about accessing heritage. We also ran several training on creating zines (mini magazines).
- A blogging training session in Glasgow for our ambassadors and other members.
- We have also run online media and advocacy sessions relates to our advocacy work for international students' rights and on visa fees, for instance linked to our National Day of Action, in October 2024, where we trained participants on the skills necessary to engage.

We also shared our learning by delivering training to other groups including:

- Training in Manchester for WAST (Women Asylum Seekers Together) for a group of undocumented women to tell their stories.
- Tailored training to individuals and organisations of StatusNow4All network in Birmingham and Manchester on how best to tell their stories, speak to the media and advocate for their rights.
- Providing advocacy training sessions for key groups including, the City of Sanctuary Network, Haringey Migrant Support Centre and English for Action.

The Barrow Cadbury Trust has funded the UKMVC hub in Birmingham. The Trust for London has funded our visa fees campaign work in London, contributing to key activities of our network. Most of our other funding also supports the activities of the network, in particular our core funders, Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, John Ellerman Foundation, The Tudor Trust AB Charitable Trust and the Paul Hamlyn Foundation. Our 'Putting Ourselves in the Picture' project activities in Glasgow are funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Migrants speaking out in the media

We work to strengthen migrants' voices in the media and public debate to influence and shape these and speak up to power and across. This is with the aim that the media and public discourse on migration centers, includes, and is informed by migrant voices and perspectives.

To this end, we continued implementing our proactive media strategy, pitching stories to the media, while also reacting to requests where we considered this productive.

This has included:

- Our Ambassador's programme in Glasgow has lead to articles appearing in local and regional Scottish media, including the Glasgow Times and the Greater Govanhill Magazine
- We have had articles in national, international, regional, local and trade publications and media outlets, including the Guardian, Big Issue, New York Times, Sky News, PIE, IPaper, Morning Star and Nursing Times.

- In these stories, migrants have been speaking about a diverse array of topics, including, Nigerian nurses blocked from working due to allegations about issues with tests completed in Nigeria, International students denied the right to study, far right riots in the summer of 2024, the need for better regularisation routes for undocumented migrants, and the Scottish government policy of free bus passes for people seeking asylum.
- Our Director was interviewed for a number of programmes, including for a BBC programme focusing on immigration policy since 1997 as part of series of programmes they are launching in the autumn of 2025, and by Together in the UK' about her experience and about Migrant Voice for a podcast series.

Migrants' own production of content

As a result of our training and facilitation of platforms to share voices and experiences, more migrant members have been writing, filming, recording and sharing their stories on our own platforms and on external channels. We have seen our training increasingly leading to more members producing their own stories.

This has included:

- Members from our three regions have worked on stories for our one-off multimedia newspaper – including interviews, photos and sound recordings. Coming together in the summer of 2024, over 50 members in our three regions met to discuss the stories they felt were most important to tell in our newspaper. These included issues impacting their lives and their communities and positive stories of successes and achievement. Many wrote their stories, others were interviewed or connected us to migrants they wanted to see featured. The paper was launched at our anniversary conference in February 2025 and was also shared with MPs and via our website.
- We have seen forty-two pieces published from migrants on the voices section of our website, then shared across our social media platforms.
- We have published eight zines (mini magazines), including 'Degrees of Scottishness' featuring stories about identity and belonging, and 'Migrant maps of Glasgow' with stories about places where migrants go and migrants mapping their lives and communities in Glasgow. The zines are printed and distributed and shared on social media and exhibited. This is part of our 'Putting Ourselves in the Picture' project.
- We supported some of our asylum seeking members in Birmingham to anonymously share their opinions on the Rwanda policy and the impact it was having on them. We ran a series of voice-note social media posts sharing their views anonymously both on our platforms and with journalists covering the stories. We also interviewed six undocumented migrants in Birmingham for a series of anonymised voice clips for social media to raise awareness of the need for regularisation.

Our grant from the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, alongside contributions from other core funders, played a significant role in enabling us to do our media and communications work. The National Lottery Heritage Fund have funded our Putting Ourselves in the Picture project activities in Glasgow.

Meet a Migrant - Migrant Ambassadors and Meet the Editors

This pioneering project transfers our learning and experience from speaking out as migrants in the media through tailored sessions for migrant community groups and individuals active in their communities. We also work to address structural inequalities that exclude migrants' voices from the media and from influencing policy.

In our Ambassadors Programme, we share our own experience of migrants getting their voices in the media. We provide a comprehensive training for migrants who want to speak out to the media and share stories from their communities. In this period, we trained new groups of Ambassadors in Glasgow through a series of workshops and meetings including on how to identify and pitch stories to editors, interview skills, and writing letters to the editors.

This project and the broader work of the communications team is funded by the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation and supported by other core funders. The communications capacity enabled by this grant continues to be instrumental, increasing our output of media stories and website content, and improving our visibility, impact, and social media presence and our members' skills and media influencing.

Campaigning, advocacy and policy influencing work

Thanks to our core funders, we have continued and expanded our work to bring migrants' voices and issues directly to policymakers with the goal of influencing policy changes.

We develop and conduct migrant-led campaigns and advocacy so that:

- Migration and other policies which affect migrants are formed with migrants' involvement, respecting and promoting migrants' rights and dignity;
- Migrants, with others, win campaigns and policy changes, individually and as groups, that improve their lives and society as a whole.

The campaign against extortionate visa costs

Together with migrants directly affected, including through our steering group, Migrant Voice has been campaigning for a fairer immigration system and against extortionate visa costs and long settlement routes since 2020. We continued to raise awareness and broaden the support from MPs, and other stakeholders, such as unions, and other organisations inside and beyond our sector. Our activities in this period have included:

- *We convene a civil society coalition around the issue that included the organisations Praxis, Ramfel, Reunite families UK, Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit, WeBelong, and Project17.*
- We provided advocacy training sessions for key groups including Haringey Migrant Support Centre and English for Action.
- We conducted a number of focus groups and an online survey into the impact of visa costs on individuals, the results of which are being compiled into a report for public and parliamentary dissemination.
- We held our second National Day of Action to raise awareness of the issue in the public and convene groups and individuals affected (we moved this activity online because of the riots.) Our Day of Action reached more than 150 people directly via our online event, with an estimated 1000 more through additional online engagement, across the country.
- We met with several MPs and helped shape a Westminster Hall debate into Minimum Income Requirements and visa fees organised by Paul Blomfield MP.
- We have sent a targeted briefing on the impact of visa costs to more than 100 MPs to coincide with party conference season.

We coordinated an open letter, signed by more than 20 organisations, to the Home Secretary calling for a reduction in visa fees.

 # MyFutureBack campaign

This is our campaign for justice for tens of thousands of international students who in 2014 were wrongly accused of cheating on an English language test (known as TOEIC) required for their visas. Many of the students lost their status; many were kicked out of universities; some were detained and others were deported. We continue to capitalise on the campaign's successes, and also to ensure all those affected receive redress.

- We have had a number of meetings with the students to prepare for a meeting with the Immigration Minister Seema Malhotra. With affected students, we produced a list of recommendations to improve the situation for the students and create a simpler and fairer processes for them to pursue justice. The Immigration Minister agreed to take forward some of the recommendations and has instructed the Home Office to set up a working group to review the whole issue.
- We have been working on pitching a drama about the injustices faced by the students. This is inspired by the response to the dramatization of the Horizon Post Office Scandal, due to the similarities between these two injustices. We have had a number of discussions and met with production companies, drama producers and a screenwriter and director. We organised creative writing workshops for some of the students, with the University of Westminster's creative writing lead.
- We are working with an award-winning film director on creating a documentary verbatim theatre production.
- With the students we have sent a letter, signed by 100 students, to the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary calling on them to end this injustice and to meet with us.

Our work for regularisation of undocumented migrants

A large part of our work to support migrants with irregular status continues to be through our active engagement with and support for the StatusNow4All network, where we sit on the reference group. This is a coalition of more than 150 groups, politicians, local authorities and organisations calling for the regularisation of undocumented migrants.

- As part of a small steering group we helped set up the LEAP Project (Lived Experience Advocacy Project). This is a development from the StatusNow4All network, that seeks to nurture the confidence and leadership, media and campaign skills of undocumented migrants to be at the forefront of the campaign for regularisation and their rights. In total we have 36 leaders in the programme across London, Birmingham and Manchester.
- We co-organised 3 strategy events for the LEAP leaders**,** to engage individuals with lived experience in developing and engaging in the whole process of the campaign and its plan of work and activities.
- We delivered tailored training to individuals and organisations of StatusNow4All network in Birmingham and Manchester on how best to tell their stories, speak to the media and advocate for their rights.
- We convened sector organisations working on regularisation for a meeting to share information and discuss collaboration.
- We coordinated a letter to the Home Secretary signed by over 80 organisations calling for the government to create pathways to regularisation.
- We sit on the board of PICUM (Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants) and on its regularisation taskforce where we exchange learning and experiences and influence its regularisation campaign.

Nigerian nurses

We have been supporting a group of Nigerian nurses who were accused of cheating in a test that's required to work in the UK. They were struggling to be allowed to appeal, after meeting all the requirements made of them, including passing the test again in the UK.

- We have worked with over 60 of the nurses delivering training focused on advocating in the media and to their MPs. As a result they wrote letters to the Health Secretary, to MPs and other stakeholders.
- A crucial part has been support to speak out in the media. This ked to two Guardian articles and stories in Nursing Times.
- We wrote a letter jointly with ILPA (Immigration Law Practitioners Association) to the Home Office and Immigration Minister. As a result we were offered a meeting with the Home Office, which led to various measures of support.

Other policy influencing work

Our work bringing the voices and experiences of migrants to policymakers has also included the following areas:

- We organised an event with the Human Rights Consortium Scotland focused on migrants' perspectives on their rights and the role of the Scottish Government in guaranteeing and delivering them. The findings were fed into the Scottish government's policies on human rights.
- During the year Migrant Voice was involved in more than 10 open letters, focusing on a range of issues facing migrants. This included our open letters to Home Office Ministers regarding the urgent need for better, and faster routes to regularisation for undocumented migrants and on the impact of visa fees on migrants. Among the organisations and groups we have collaborated with, including signing on these open letters are: Amnesty, FLEX, Words Matter, Refugee Legal Support, Runnymede Trust, BRAP, Migrant Rights Centre Ireland, PRAXIS, IMIX and Haringey Migrant Support Centre.

The 'Putting Ourselves in the Picture' project

This project, a partnership with Glasgow Life Museums, continues to work to address the missing representation of migration stories in the heritage of Scotland. The project aims to ensure migrants are engaging in dialogue about how they are represented in museum collections. The vision is to see the heritage of migrants being better identified as part of Scottish history and life. Some of the activities this year include:

- Our ongoing exhibition at Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum continues to attract visitors and groups. We aorganised guided tours of the exhibition, which was added to the museum's offer for schools. The exhibition running from September 2023 to October 2025 has so far reached an estimated 175,000 people, including 773 individuals who came to the events we held there.
- The culmination of our workshops in photography, illustration, storytelling and curation led to the launch of three new exhibitions in this period together with the trained migrant co-curators:
    - 'Outside In' launched for International Migrants' day 2024, saw photos displayed alongside writing, maps, a short film, and keepsakes with information about migrants' heritage in Scotland and the connection between Scotland and the world. Events included tours of the exhibition followed by taking part in migrant heritage activities.
    - Ye awright, pal?' exhibition brought together over 100 participants from different countries to take part in drawing sessions producing 200 drawings.
    - In Glasgow and Edinburgh, we produced large public billboard displays of zines created by our members in order to reach people where they are, and those who may not come to our exhibitions at museums.
- The project also led to further exhibitions of our zines including at the University of Glasgow as part of Unesco Rila spring school in May, at a Persian shop, and at the Crannog Festival, among others. Migrant Voice's Scotland team received the Above and Beyond Participant award for our programme at Doors Open Days festival award ceremony.
- Alongside one of our zine exhibitions, we organised a human library during which young migrants aged under 25 shared their stories in one-to-one or small-group settings.

The 'Putting Ourselves in the Picture' project is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. With thanks to National Lottery players.

Migration. Making Britain Great / Migration Making Scotland Great

This partnership project with Show Racism the Red Card and IMIX tackles the hostile rhetoric on migration. Using the educational model of Show Racism the Red card the project educates and informs on how migrants contribute to developing a stronger and healthier country.

- The project has created a number of films featuring migrants, and a main project film which features Gary Lineker and other sports celebrities promoting positive messages on migration. In April we launched the latter film at an event at the National Education Union to a packed room of sports and union representatives.
- The project has been showing the educational videos we created with migrants to schools, and In April 2024 two of our members from Glasgow and Birmingham as well as two staff members spoke to groups of students from four schools in Newcastle about migration and their experiences as migrants at an event organised by Show Racism the Red Card.
- A report from the university of Newcastle on the project's engagement with children in schools shows that the educational programme has had a positive impact on the school children.
- We organised three International Migrants Day events in 2024 on the theme of Migration Making Britain/ Scotland Great, also showcasing films from the project.

This partnership project is funded by the European Philanthropic Initiative for Migration (EPIM).

‘Digitising Identity’ Project

We have been raising awareness of the challenges migrants are experiencing in proving their status due to new digital requirements. This work is part of a new partnership project ‘Digitising Identity’ with Universities of Leicester and Warwick, and the Open Rights Group. Migrant Voice has hosted the first stakeholder meeting bringing together key sector organisations. Members from London and Birmingham have been sharing their experiences for the partnerships’ research.

This project is funded by the ESRC Digital Good Network

Volunteering and in-kind support

All Migrant Voice activities are supported by a large number of volunteers (including journalists) giving their time and skills to support the work.

In addition, Migrant Voice receives a significant amount of in-kind support in the form of venues, expert trainers, legal advice for our members and to support our campaigns, editors, etc.

The ongoing maintenance and hosting of our website in this period was done through in-kind donation to a value of £4,000.

Financial review

The Charity's income was £450,572 in the year ended 31 March 2025 compared to £386,662 in the year ended 31 March 2024. The total expenditure amounted to £452,716 the year to 31 March 2025 compared to £425,434 in the year ended 31 March 2024.The fund balance carried forward at 31 March 2025 was £64,660 on general unrestricted funds. The fund balance carried forward on restricted funds was £89,118 on 31 March 2025. The full Statement of Financial Activities is set out on page 15 of these accounts.

The financial outlook for 2025-26 is positive.

Reserves Policy
The Board of trustees aims to develop and maintain a level of unrestricted reserves which ensures that there are adequate funds to meet current and known future liabilities.

A formal policy on reserves was agreed at the 4 December 2012 meeting of the executive committee and last updated 18 November 2019. It states:

The trustees have set a reserves policy which works towards achieving that:
Reserves be maintained at a level which ensures that Migrant Voice's core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty. A proportion of reserves be maintained in a readily realisable form.

Most of MV’s funding is restricted in some way and any restricted funds will be treated as restricted. MV will build its reserve from the unrestricted funding and through prudent savings. The organisation will build its reserves to reach the target by increased fundraising, increased earned income through e.g. training or presentation delivery, through donations, and through reducing expenditure.

We will aim to allocate an amount of £250 per month for the reserve (£3000 per year). This must come from unrestricted funds.

MV aims to have reserves equivalent to a minimum of 3 months running costs. At the moment our reserves are £64,660.

Investment policy and performance
The Memorandum & Articles of Association provides that the organisation invests moneys not immediately required for its own purposes in or upon such investments securities or properties as may- be thought fit. At the present time the trustees' policy is to maintain all such monies on deposits earning a market rate of interest.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which Migrant Voice is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Future plans for financial year 2025-2026

- Continue to implement our Theory of Change and our Strategy 2022-27, that builds migrants' voices, power, and influence further to challenge structural inequality and injustice faced by migrants by increasing our strategic impact and secure funding to undertake this work. We will also start the work to update our strategy for the next few years to respond to changes in the external environment.

- We will work to strengthen existing collaborations and build new working relationships with partners and key stakeholders, to build solidarity and increase our impact; we will continue strengthening our convening role.

- We will continue strengthening our organisational infrastructure and our monitoring and evaluation, and will fundraise to increase staff and organisational capacity.

- We will continue to strengthen our network of migrant hubs as the foundation for all our work including introducing new training and activities such as the Newsroom and Meet the Press.

- We will continue our work to bring migrant voices into the public arena, be it in the media, or other policy or public platforms regionally, nationally and in Europe.

- We will continue our work to build migrants' collective power and influence, ensuring our rights are protected and migrants set the agenda on migration, especially through our visa fees campaign.

- We will work to increase the effectiveness of our media and campaign/advocacy work to affect systemic change directly engaging policy makers and building on our work with editorial teams.

- We will continue working with our trained Ambassadors and undertake further 'Meet the Editors' meetings.

- We will launch the report from our survey with migrants on the impact of visa costs and long settlement routes

- We will continue to work in partnership on the research project on the impact for migrants of proving status digitally, and launch the report.

- We will conclude our collaboration with Glasgow Museums with a learning event.

Structure, governance and management
The organisation is a company limited by guarantee and a charity. It is operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated 11/02/2010 and most recently amended 11/07/2011. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)	
Mr Jason Bergen	(Resigned 17 March 2025)
Mr Maurice Wren	
Ms Sofi Taylor (Vice Chair)	
Prof Ferdinando Sigona	
Mr Wilfred Sullivan	
Ms Dorrie Chetty (Vice Chair)	
Mr Andre Rafael dos Santos	(Appointed 16 June 2025)
Mr Muhammad Imman Ali	(Appointed 16 June 2025)

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Overall management of the company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the memorandum and articles of association. Day to day project activity is managed and carried out by paid staff and/or volunteers.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)
Trustee
Dated: 8 December 2025

MIGRANT VOICE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF MIGRANT VOICE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Migrant Voice (the Migrant Voice) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the Migrant Voice (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Migrant Voice's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of 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 that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Migrant Voice as required by section 386 of the Companies Act 2006.

2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

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

4 the financial statements 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 financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.



Reddy Siddiqui LLP
183-189 The Vale
Acton
London
W3 7RW
United Kingdom
8 December 2025

MIGRANT VOICE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	**3**	5,708	-	5,708	1,675	100	1,775
Charitable activities	**4**	-	438,749	438,749	-	368,259	368,259
Other income	**5**	6,115	-	6,115	16,628	-	16,628
Total income		11,823	438,749	450,572	18,303	368,359	386,662
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	**6**	54,970	397,746	452,716	25,480	399,954	425,434
Total expenditure		54,970	397,746	452,716	25,480	399,954	425,434
Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds		(43,147)	41,003	(2,144)	(7,177)	(31,595)	(38,772)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		107,807	48,115	155,922	114,984	79,710	194,694
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		64,660	89,118	153,778	107,807	48,115	155,922

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

MIGRANT VOICE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**11**		2,190		5,000
Current assets					
Debtors	**12**	931		485	
Cash at bank and in hand		152,931		153,626	
		153,862		154,111	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**14**	(2,274)		(3,189)	
Net current assets			151,588		150,922
Total assets less current liabilities			153,778		155,922
The funds of the Migrant Voice					
Restricted income funds	**15**		89,118		48,115
Unrestricted funds	**16**		64,660		107,807
			153,778		155,922

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 8 December 2025

Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)
Trustee

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Migrant Voice is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is VAI, 200a Pentonville Road, London, N1 9JP, United Kingdom.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Migrant Voice's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and “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)” (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The Migrant Voice is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Migrant Voice has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Migrant Voice. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, [modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value]. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Migrant Voice has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Migrant Voice.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when Migrant Voice is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once Migrant Voice has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Migrant Voice has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is an obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses. The charity has a minimum value for all assets costing more than £350 capitalised.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures, fittings & equipment	25% on straight line basis

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Migrant Voice reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

1.9 Employee benefits

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Migrant Voice is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Migrant Voice's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025	Restricted funds 2025	Total 2025	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	5,708	-	5,708	1,675	100	1,775

4 Charitable activities

	Charitable income 2025	Charitable income 2024
	£	£
AB Charitable Trust	25,000	-
Barrow Cadbury Trust	34,097	28,200
European Philanthropic Initiative for Migration (EPIM)	-	29,059
Esmee Fairbairn Funding Plus	-	9,309
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	80,000	80,000
Glasgow City Heritage Trust	73	-
Hardship Fund	-	100
Human Rights Consortium Scotland	5,000	5,000
John Ellerman Foundation	41,013	40,309
London churches Refugee Hardship Fund	-	1,000
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	55,000	55,000
The University of Warwick (ESRC Digital Good Network)	373	-
The National Lottery Heritage Fund	98,845	29,734
The Tudor Trust	46,348	38,648
Trust for London	53,000	50,000
University of Birmingham (Migzen)	-	2,000
Income from charitable activities	438,749	368,359

4 Charitable activities **(Continued)**

	-	-

5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2025	**2024**
	£	**£**
Other income	6,115	16,628

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2025	**2024**
	£	**£**
Direct costs		
Staff costs	321,156	297,543
Depreciation and impairment	2,810	3,107
Charitable expenditure heading 1	42,229	64,306
	366,195	364,956
Share of support and governance costs (see note 7)		
Support	81,018	55,449
Governance	5,503	5,029
	452,716	425,434
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	54,970	25,480
Restricted funds	397,746	399,954
	452,716	425,434

7 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Support cost	81,018	-	81,018	55,449
Accountancy	-	3,002	3,002	2,924
Governance costs	-	2,501	2,501	2,105
	81,018	5,503	86,521	60,478
Analysed between				
Charitable activities	81,018	5,503	86,521	60,478

Accountancy / Governance costs is payments to the independent examination of £1,920 (2024: £1,920).

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Migrant Voice during the year.

During the year Trustees received reimbursement of expenses amounting to £1,425 (2024 - £1,302).

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Full time employees	4	4
Part time employees	6	6
Total	10	10

Employment costs	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	275,258	260,799
Social security costs	26,834	19,571
Other pension costs	19,064	17,173
	321,156	297,543

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment
	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2024	39,100
At 31 March 2025	39,100
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2024	34,100
Depreciation charged in the year	2,810
At 31 March 2025	36,910
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2025	2,190
At 31 March 2024	5,000

The net book value of assets £2,190 breaks down as follows: The National Lottery Heritage Fund £514, John Ellerman £323 and unrestricted funds: £1,353. These would be written down to nil in subsequent years

12 Debtors

	2025	2024
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Other debtors	931	485

13 Movement in funds

Funders	Balance at 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
AB Charitable Trust	-	25,000	682	24,318
Barrow Cadbury Trust	8,715	34,097	34,930	7,882
Barrow Cadbury Trust/The National Lottery Community Fund COVID-19 Support Fund	258	-	258	-
ERDF - UIA - MiFriendly Cities	176	-	176	-
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	34,032	80,000	74,605	39,427
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation – cost of living grant uplift	1	-	1	-
European Philanthropic Initiative for Migration (EPIM)	5,812	-	11,286	(5,474)
Glasgow City Heritage Trust	-	73	73	-
Hardship Fund	255	-	105	150
Human Rights Consortium Scotland	-	5,000	701	4,299
Impact Funding Partners (Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership)	5	-	5	-
John Ellerman Foundation	28,307	41,013	48,224	21,096
London churches Refugee Hardship Fund	752	-	300	452
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	113	55,000	55,113	-
The University of Warwick (ESRC Digital Good Network)	-	373	373	-
The National Lottery Community Fund - Coronavirus Community Support Fund	337	-	337	-
The National Lottery Heritage Fund	(51,940)	98,845	70,058	(23,153)
The Tudor Trust	186	46,348	46,534	-
Trust for London	21,106	53,000	53,985	20,121
	48,115	438,749	397,746	89,118

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other creditors	354	1,269
Accruals and deferred income	1,920	1,920
	2,274	3,189

15 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
	48,115	438,749	(397,746)	89,118

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
	79,710	368,359	(399,954)	48,115

16 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
General funds	107,807	11,823	(54,970)	64,660

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	114,984	18,303	(25,480)	107,807

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	**Restricted funds 2025 £**	**Total 2025 £**	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2025 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	672	1,518	2,190	2,257	2,743	5,000
Current assets/(liabilities)	63,988	87,600	151,588	45,858	105,064	150,922
	64,660	89,118	153,778	48,115	107,807	155,922

18 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year.

MIGRANT VOICE

England & Wales - Charity number 1142963

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1142963 (England and Wales)
Charity Registration No. SC050970 (Scotland)

Company Registration No. 07154151 (England and Wales)

MIGRANT VOICE

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

MIGRANT VOICE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair) Mr Jason Bergen Mr Maurice Wren Ms Sofi Taylor (Vice Chair) Prof Ferdinando Sigona Mr Wilfred Sullivan Ms Dorrie Chetty
Secretary	Mrs Nazek Ramadan Moussa
Charity number Charity number (Scotland)	1142963 (England and Wales) SC050970
Company number	07154151
Registered office	VAI, 200a Pentonville Road London United Kingdom N1 9JP
Independent examiner	Reddy Siddiqui LLP 183-189 The Vale Acton London United Kingdom W3 7RW

MIGRANT VOICE

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 13
Independent examiner's report	14
Statement of financial activities	15
Balance sheet	16
Notes to the financial statements	17 - 26

MIGRANT VOICE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with Migrant Voice's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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 2019)".

Objectives and activities

1. To advance education amongst migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, by the provision of training, advice and support, especially around media work.
2. To advance the education of the public in general and the media about the issues relating to migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.
3. To promote equality and diversity by the provision of activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds and to cultivate a sentiment in favour of equality and diversity.

We are a migrant-led national organisation which builds a community of migrant voices to speak for ourselves and call for justice for all. We work with all types of migrants, including refugees and asylum-seekers, across the UK.

We strive to create a society where migrants have full equality and achieve positive change for migrants – countering racism and xenophobia, discrimination and unjust policies, bringing communities together and bringing social justice - change which benefits the whole of UK society.

To achieve this, migrants need to build collective power and influence, ensure our rights are protected and have a seat at the decision-making table to set the agenda on migration.

Our mutually interconnected methodologies, guided by our Theory of Change, are:

- We build a bigger, stronger and deeper community of migrant voices across the UK via our Migrant Voices for Change Network, made up of regional hubs;
- We strengthen migrants' ability to influence and shape the media and public debate through training, brokering stories to the media and working with journalists and editors;
- We develop and conduct migrant-led campaigns and advocacy to change law and policy and individual outcomes, that are accountable to participating migrants;
- We facilitate and act as an anchor for migrant-led initiatives of a wider migration justice movement in alliance with other movements, by convening, collaboration, capacity-building and representation.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities Migrant Voice (MV) should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit.

Our Theory of Change (TOC) guides all our work. In accordance with this, Migrant Voice has planned and run a series of successful projects and activities in this period to achieve our objectives.

Core organisational activities

It is particularly the grants from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, John Ellerman Foundation, The Tudor Trust, and Esmee Fairbairn Foundation that contribute to our core costs towards the implementation of our strategy. This has ensured our success in providing a platform for migrants to engage with the media and with policymakers, and to contribute to the public debate on migration. By putting migrant voices at the centre of the debate, we aim to develop greater understanding and support for migrants' rights and pursue policy change to achieve those rights.

The core funding provided stability for the organisation, enabling us to implement our strategy 2022-2027, and to strengthen the organisational, financial and administrative systems, and our strategic communications. It has also ensured the continuity of the work, for example, by enabling us to continue to pay core staff and to successfully apply for new funding.

The core funding has also contributed to the development and running of the organisation and therefore to the work of our UK Migrant Voices for Change Network in the three regions (London, West Midlands and Glasgow).

- We have worked on strengthening our monitoring, evaluation, and data collection practices, testing new ways to capture and reflect on our impact.
- We have recruited several new team members to join us, including a Network worker in Birmingham, a Campaign Organiser in London, a Network Support Worker in Glasgow, and a Communications Worker.
- We have completed and implemented a review of staff salaries.
- We met with the staff team and board for a strategy away day – As a result, we reviewed and update sections of our strategy for 2022-27 in line with internal changes in how we work, and changes in the external context - to ensure we are resilient to the challenges ahead. We particularly updated the priority strategic themes, which our work seeks to address.
- We have organised regular reflection days with the staff team to look at our learning and impact as well as holding a number of staff training.
- We finalised work with an IT company and moved our email platforms to a new system.

As a result of the core funding, our Director and the staff team have continued to build stronger alliances and partnerships while also engaging with media, academics, policymakers, unions, and other civil society organisations.

Partnerships

We have worked with other organisations and groups on several specific issues in line with our Strategic Plan, and to address emerging topics and opportunities. This partnership engagement is a valuable part of our work, leading to the sharing of knowledge and expertise, organising joint events, and collaborating on joint letters and policy asks.

Our partnership activities include many other collaborations within and beyond the migration sector, which are too numerous to mention here, but we include some examples below.

We continued to strengthen our existing working relationships as well as meet with new groups and organisations to explore collaboration and avoid duplication. This includes the following:

- *London*: International The International Federation of Iraqi Refugees, RefuAid, Islington Refugees and Migrants forum, Union Chapel, Haringey Migrant Support Centre, Migrant Democracy Project.
- *Glasgow:* Glasgow Museums, Central West Integration Network, Garnethill Multicultural Centre, UNESCO RILA (Refugee Integration Through Languages & Art), University of Glasgow, University of West of Scotland, Community InfoSource, I Welcome Club, Glasgow Clyde College, Maryhill Burgh Halls, Glasgow City Council, JackArts
- *West Midlands*: Hope Projects, POMOC, The University of Birmingham, Centrala, the Journey group, Coventry Asylum and Refugee Action Group (Carag), Birmingham, City of Sanctuary and others.

We continue to collaborate on joint statements and letters with other organisations in the sector on policy issues arising, including raising concerns about the state of asylum accommodation, and the impacts of increases to both visa fees and the International Health Surcharge, issues with Sponsorship Licenses, opposition to the Rwanda Safety Bill and the Illegal Migration Act. We also wrote a briefing on Modern Slavery for House of Commons Committee on Government Bill 262, in partnership with Amnesty International, which was signed by other organisations in the sector.

As part of our ongoing visa costs campaign, we continue to work with groups in the sector including, Praxis, RAMFEL, Reunite Families, Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, WeBelong and Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit (GMIAU), to discuss how to raise the issue of visa and settlement process with cross-party politicians.

We spoke about the impact of extortionate visa fees at the Nottingham University Student Union, Birmingham City of Sanctuary and to the Birmingham Strategic Migration Partnership at Birmingham City Council.

We continued our collaboration with the Human Rights Consortium Scotland, which works to promote and defend human rights in Scotland. Our partnership continues, aiming to ensure that migrants are aware of their rights and are heard when developing human rights protections in the country.

In November 2023, we launched a partnership campaign with Show Racism the Red Card (SRtRC) and IMIX named "Migration. Making Britain Great" to challenge hostile narratives on migration.

- In Glasgow we collaborated with the UNESCO Refugee Integration Through Languages and the Arts Spring School, conducting a workshop with them on zine-making.
- We have an ongoing engagement with the # StatusNow4All network sitting on their reference group, and also engaging with the network's activities and development, co-organising conferences and delivering training.

Our work with universities has also continued.

- Throughout the year we worked closely with the University of Westminster and partnered on a series of events, including film screenings of 'Ayman' and 'Matar, in collaboration with WaterBear. The sessions were followed by discussions with the films' director and writer.
- Together with the University of Glasgow we have published the Roots & Routes magazine, with stories and interviews from migrants whom we trained in our joint media labs.

International partnerships and cooperation

- Migrant Voice is represented on the board of PICUM (Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants) and we continue to engage with the network's activities.
- We continue our engagement with the Rise network (Refugee Ideas and Solutions for Europe).

UK Migrants for Change Network

We build a bigger, stronger, and deeper community of migrant voices via our UK Migrant Voices for Change Network (UKMVC), made up of regional hubs in London, West Midlands and Scotland. This network forms the foundation for our work.

Our network's membership base is made up of migrants from a diverse range of communities, alongside UK citizens, journalists, academics, and colleagues from the migration justice sector.

Through the Migrant Voice Network, via our regional hubs we:

- provide safe spaces that transforms migrants' experiences and stories into a collective demand through identification of shared problems and solutions;
- mobilise migrants and help forge connection between them, different migrant communities and with wider communities;
- run training sessions, Media Labs, discussions to increase migrants' knowledge, confidence, and skills to speak for ourselves;
- build partnerships with other organisations and stakeholders in the field of migration and social justice.

Network meetings and training are key to the UKMVC, as they create spaces for migrants from all backgrounds to come together to discuss issues affecting us, alongside building strategies to address them and speak out.

- We have held network meetings across each of our three regions, London, Birmingham and Glasgow.
- A key theme has been the impact of extortionate visa fees on which we held network meetings in person in Birmingham and Glasgow and a national meeting online. Migrants affected by high visa fees and long settlement routes spoke out, together with representatives or organisations supporting migrants, including Refugee and Migrant Centre, African French Speaking Community Support, Asylum Matters, Migration Policy Scotland, Right to Remain, Maryhill Integration Network, etc, Indoamerican Refugee and Migrant Organisation, Migrant Democracy Project, Southeast and East Asian Centre , Pan African Workers Union, Immigration Law Practitioners Association, and Ethnic Minorities Law Centre.
- The meetings had multiple impacts as well as mobilising migrants and supporters, and participants were equipped with the latest information on the visa increases and changes and what they mean for them. As a result of our meetings, we agreed to organise a National Day of Action in our three regions with partner organisations in a number of UK cities to raise awareness among the public.

Other network meetings and events included:

- A network meeting in London on the topic of the negative rhetoric on migration and the impact this has on communities. Featuring migrant speakers and speakers from Hope not Hate and a UK in a Changing Europe we had a rich discussion and actions to ensure migrants' stories are amplified as an antidote to the rhetoric.
- On the occasion of Migration Week 2024, we organised an online roundtable to highlight the discrepancy between the UK's global commitments and its policies, and how this impacts migrants. This event included speakers from the Migration Observatory, PICUM, the University of Birmingham and migrant activists.
- We organised an event for International Migrants Day in London, launching the exhibition of photography and creative writing from of our 'Welcome Project', and running a training on writing letters to the editor for IMD.

Our training in speaking out in the media, to policy makers and the public, campaigning and advocacy form other essential activities of the UKMVC network; these are described later in this report.

The Barrow Cadbury Trust has funded the UKMVC hub in Birmingham. The Trust for London has funded our visa fees campaign work in London, contributing to key activities of our network. Most of our other funding also supports the activities of the network, in particular our core funders, Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, John Ellerman Foundation, The Tudor Trust and the Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

Media and advocacy training

We held numerous media and advocacy training sessions in our three hubs, some for groups and some on an individual basis.

Our training empowers migrants to speak for themselves and to engage effectively with the media. Media training topics included preparing for an interview, preparing your message, photography, creating videos, and using social media. As a result of our training, members are becoming more articulate and confident speaking out.

We increasingly also do training on advocacy through both media platforms and speaking with policy makers.

We organised training across our regions including:

- A Media Lab in London in March which focused on using photography and creative writing to tell stories. This kickstarted our 'Welcome Project' which aims to empower migrants to tell their stories and counter the negative and hostile rhetoric on migration using creative tools and creating messages of welcome.
- A series of Media Labs in Glasgow on photography, interviewing and storytelling in collaboration with Glasgow University.
- During Migration Week 2024, we organised a training session on advocacy around the UK immigration system, in particular with parliamentarians.
- As part of our campaign against extortionate visa fees, we organised online national media training sessions on interview skills for speaking out on visa fees. The sessions covered how to prepare our messages and experiences in order to speak to the media or on public platforms.

We also shared our learning by delivering training to other groups including:

- In Birmingham, for StatusNow4All network, on 'telling our stories' for undocumented migrants and for Women and Asylum Seekers Together (WAST) in Manchester for women with precarious immigration status on the same topic. An advocacy training for 'Reunite Families', focused on how to help migrants to advocate for themselves with MPs and other policymakers and separately for the lived experience advisory group at JCWI to help migrants to advocate for themselves with MPs and other policymakers.
- We did a listening exercise followed by a training on how to advocate for yourself in the media and with policymakers to migrant members of 'English for Action'.

Migrants speaking out in the media

We work to strengthen migrants' voices in the media and public debate to influence and shape these and speak up to power and across. This is with the aim that the media and public discourse on migration centers, includes, and is informed by migrant voices and perspectives.

To this end, we continued implementing our proactive media strategy, pitching stories to the media, while also reacting to requests where we considered this productive.

During this year Migrant Voice was featured in more than 60 stories across national, regional and local media, including print, radio, television and online. These included, the Guardian, Sky News, The Independent, The Standard, The Independent, The Tab, the Daily Record, MyLondon and Times Radio, along with others.

Migrants spoke out in a number of these pieces, on a diverse array of topics, including the English Language Test Scandal, art exhibitions and asylum policies, as well as first person pieces on topics such as the impact of visa fees on the lives of individual migrants.

Our grant from the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, alongside contributions from other core funders, played a significant role in enabling us to do this work.

Migrants' own production of content

As a result of our training and facilitation of platforms to share voices and experiences, more migrant members have been writing, filming, recording and sharing their stories on our own platforms and on external channels. We have seen our training increasingly leading to more members producing their own stories.

Members have created pieces for our website, including about their own experiences. One of our members took part in a podcast – 'Voices for Change' with Glasgow University. Several members created audio posts on social media, which allowed those who wanted to speak out anonymously to share their stories:

- As part of the 'Migration Making Britain/Scotland Great' project, we supported and interviewed six migrants in Glasgow and Birmingham to produce short videos for a series of education sessions in schools delivered by Show Racism the Red Card.
- We have worked with eight migrants to create a film with Show Racism the Red Card and IMIX, which featured sports stars and migrants working in NHS, construction, and other key sectors.

Our migrant members have also used photography, and printed publications to share their stories.

- Our regular zine in Glasgow, for example, provides a way in which migrants can talk about their own experiences, within a particular theme for that month. Migrants are encouraged to share stories about issues that matter to them, experiences, challenges, contributions; language support offered to those who need it. The zines are printed and distributed and shared on social media and they'll form an exhibition in 2024.
- Working with Povestry, we organised a series of creative writing sessions in 22-23, which led to the creation of a multilingual book of stories of migration from migrants of many backgrounds. The book, 'All Roads Lead to Glasgow' was launched on International Migrants' Day, at an event where migrants shared their readings.
- Several of our members had stories and poems published in the 'Together in the UK' poetry book 'Hear Our Stories'. During the launch event at the Romanian Cultural Centre in London, members had the opportunity to read their work to a large audience.

Campaigning, advocacy and policy influencing work

Thanks to our core funders, we have continued and expanded our work to bring migrants' voices and issues directly to policymakers with the goal of influencing policy changes.

We develop and conduct migrant-led campaigns and advocacy so that:

- Migration and other policies which affect migrants are formed with migrants' involvement, respecting and promoting migrants' rights and dignity;
- Migrants, with others, win campaigns and policy changes, individually and as groups, that improve their lives and society as a whole.

The campaign against extortionate visa costs

Our campaign for a fairer immigration system and against extortionate visa costs continued to raise awareness and broaden the support from MPs, and other stakeholders, such as unions, and other organisations inside and outside our sector.

- This year we organised our first National Day of Action, with the support of partner organisations, to raise awareness of the issue. Coordinated, Halloween-themed events took place around the country on 31 October, including rallies in London, Birmingham, Glasgow, a demonstration in Manchester, and activities in Leeds and Sheffield. In London, our rally took place in front of the Home Office and had the presence of MPs Sir Stephen Timms and Bell Ribeiro-Addy. Organisations involved included Reunite Families UK, Manchester City of Sanctuary, Migrant Democracy Project, Project 17, Govan Community Project, RAMFEL, JCWI. In total we engaged with approximately 60 different organisations and advocates in developing and implementing the day of action. We estimate that we engaged with more than 5,000 people, through on and offline activities, with, approximately, 200 attending in person events around the country.

- We wrote a briefing on the impact of the cost-of-living on migrants paying visa fees and the increase in the Immigration Health Surcharge (the latter together with Praxis, JCWI and Reunite Families, signed by 23 other organisations) which were sent to more than a hundred MPs, across all parties.
- We have strong collaboration and information sharing, with key organisations including JCWI, Praxis, Reunite Families, WeBelong, Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR), TUC, GMAIU, and Immigration Law Practitioners' Association, on how to effectively campaign together around visa fees and the ten-year route. This includes: a letter to Keir Starmer MP, feeding into the shaping of a Westminster Hall debate into Minimum Income Requirements and visa fees by Paul Blomfield MP, influencing an Early Day Motion, sponsored and co-sponsored by Sir Stephen Timms MP and Bell Ribbero-Addy MP and handing in a petition into 10 Downing Street with Praxis and Reunite Families, to coincide with Valentine's Day.
- Along with PRAXIS, JCWI and Reunite Families, we wrote a joint statement on the minimum income requirements for members of parliament. In addition to this, we led on an open letter to the Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee (SLSC) regarding the increases in visa costs, with 18 other organisations, which led to our evidence being published as part of its consideration process. As a result, we had a response from the SLSC, which states that the government did not allow property scrutiny of the legislation and that the fee increases were made too drastically.

 # MyFutureBack campaign

This is our campaign for justice for tens of thousands of international students who in 2014 were wrongly accused of cheating on an English language test (known as TOEIC) required for their visas. Many of the students lost their status; many were kicked out of universities; some were detained and others were deported. This year sadly marked the tenth anniversary of the injustice. We continued to work with the students to progress the campaign in several areas:

- In April, we worked with a group of the students to write and deliver a letter to the Prime Minister asking him to put an end to their injustice. We organised a small demonstration outside Downing Street to deliver the letter as part of our continuous collaboration with Sir Stephen Timms MP.
- The drama about the Horizon Post Office scandal, which has stark similarities to the students' injustice, inspired us to explore raising awareness of the students' injustice in a similar way. We have been working with filmmaker Tim Langford and a script writer to pitch a dramatization of the TOEIC scandal. We ran a number of creative writing workshop with students by award-winning authors on how to develop their stories into scripts.
- To mark the tenth anniversary of the scandal we have coordinated numerous media opportunities for students to speak directly to the press about their experiences. This has led to more than 20 pieces of press related coverage in February alone, including a series of articles in the Guardian and Observer, and interviews for Sky News and ITV, along with podcasts.
- We continue to work with legal representatives including from Garden Court chambers to support the students on their fight for justice.
- We facilitated a meeting between students, legal experts and Sir Stephen Timms MP to promote further parliamentary advocacy work in the campaign.

Our work with asylum seekers

Our asylum seekers campaign has been primarily focused on raising public awareness of the conditions which they face in Home Office accommodation, and the overall issues with the asylum process. This has included:

- Based on the experience of about 200 asylum seekers, from our meetings, individual interviews and the survey, we produced a report on asylum seekers' conditions in London hotels and their experiences of the asylum system. The report also had contributions from local authorities and organisations we had worked with to support those seeking asylum. The report "No Rest, No Security", was launched in April 2023 and gained national media attention in the Guardian, for showcasing some of the inhumane conditions people were being placed in, and the harmful impact on their mental and physical health.
- Following this, asylum seeking members in London spoke to the London Mayor's Office about their living conditions in hotels and the challenges of going through the asylum process and the impact on their physical and mental health.
- We have had a number of meetings with the Mayor's advisors and presented our recommendations from the report.
- We met with the Outreach and Engagement team for the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman – following the launch of our report on asylum seekers in hotels. They are looking to work closer with us around migrants' access to healthcare.
- We continued to organise other smaller gatherings and self-help groups after this and supporting individuals to write to their MPs, with letters, referrals to legal advice, and other signposting.
- Rwanda – While not a primary area of the campaign, asylum seekers we work with have been sharing their views anonymously via quotes and voice clips for our social media to highlight their views, which have been lacking from the wider debate. Along with media coverage on this, we have contributed to briefings and open letters condemning the plan.
- We have coordinated a project, whereby we provided those in Home Office Hotels with cameras, for asylum seekers to use photography to showcase the, often unseen, reality of their daily life.

Other policy influencing work

Our work bringing the voices and experiences of migrants to policymakers has also included the following areas:

- We organised an event with the Human Rights Consortium Scotland focused on migrants' perspectives on their rights and the role of the Scottish Government in guaranteeing and delivering them. The findings were fed into the Scottish government's policies on human rights.
- During the year Migrant Voice was involved in creating, leading on, and/or distributing thirteen open letters and briefings. These included a briefing to the House of Lords on citizenship rights, and to Parliament on the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on migrants. Other briefings, including to Members of Parliament, included analysis of, and information on, the state of asylum accommodation, and the impacts of increases to both visa fees and the International Health Surcharge. Other Open Letters included raising concerns about issues with Sponsorship Licenses, opposition to the Rwanda Safety Bill and the Illegal Migration Act.

The rights of EU nationals

- We continued our collaboration as partners in the Migzen project, led by University of Birmingham, looking at citizenship, migration and belonging post-Brexit. The research project explores the long-term impacts of Brexit on migration and migrants to uncover what this reveals about Britain's migration story and future.

The funding for this work came through the University of Birmingham.

Our work for regularisation of undocumented migrants

This year, a large part of our work to support migrants with irregular status was through our active engagement with the StatusNow4All network. This is a coalition of more than 150 groups, politicians, local authorities and organisations calling for the regularisation of undocumented migrants in the UK and Ireland.

- We co-organised two conferences with the StatusNow4All Network, one in London and one in the West Midlands, during which people with precarious immigration status shared their stories. The group committed to continue engaging in the campaign to regularise their status and telling their stories.
- We have delivered training for the StatusNow4All network members on how to tell their stories in an impactful way.

Meet a Migrant

This pioneering project transfers our learning and experience from speaking out as migrants in the media through tailored sessions for migrant community groups and individuals active in their communities. We also work to address structural inequalities that exclude migrants' voices from the media and from influencing policy.

Migrant Ambassadors and Meet the Editors

- In our Ambassadors Programme, we share our own experience of migrants getting their voices in the media. We provide a comprehensive training for migrants who want to speak out to the media and share stories from their communities. In this period, we trained two news groups of Ambassadors in London and Glasgow through a series of workshops and meetings including on how to identify and pitch stories to editors, interview skills, and writing letters to the editors.

This project and the broader work of the communications team is funded by the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation and supported by other core funders. The communications capacity enabled by this grant continues to be instrumental, increasing our output of media stories and website content, and improving our visibility, impact, and social media presence and our members' skills and media influencing.

The 'Putting Ourselves in the Picture' project

In partnership with Glasgow Museums, our 'Putting Ourselves in the Picture' project in Glasgow continues to work to address the missing representation of migration stories in the heritage of Scotland. The project aims to ensure migrants are engaging in a dialogue about how they are represented in museum collections. The vision is to see the heritage of migrants being better identified as part of Scottish history and life. Some of the activities for this year include:

- Throughout the year we worked with Glasgow Museums and two migrant steering groups on the preparations for the exhibition at Kelvingrove.
- The 'Putting Ourselves in the Picture' exhibition launched at the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum in Glasgow in September attended by 250 people. It featured 60 photographs from two of Migrant Voice's projects. The exhibition showcased a range of diverse experiences and lives, the impact of immigration on Scotland's rich heritage, and the feelings of those migrants who have built their lives in the country. The exhibition will be on for two years and has been seen already by thousands.
- More than 170 migrants engaged in ongoing consultation sessions to ensure that diverse migrants are influencing the project's outcomes.
- Our Glasgow members produce monthly "zines" sharing their experiences creatively, with different themes. Migrants share stories about issues that matter to them, experiences, challenges, contributions. The zines are printed and distributed and shared on social media and they'll form an exhibition in 2024.
- We have been running both photography and illustration sessions to create content for our new exhibitions. This engagement enabled us to identify emerging themes to create a representative picture of migrants' experiences and contributions.

The 'Putting Ourselves in the Picture' project is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. With thanks to National Lottery players.

Migration. Making Britain Great / Migration Making Scotland Great

This partnership project with Show Racism the Red Card and IMIX tackles the hostile rhetoric on migration. Using the educational model of Show Racism the Red card the project educates and informs on how migrants contribute to developing a stronger and healthier country.

- The project was launched in Birmingham and Glasgow in the winter with two prestigious events attended by councillors, sports stars, organisations, journalists, and local communities. The Glasgow event was hosted by The Glasgow City Chambers and those attending included. We got two video messages specifically for the event from the then Scottish First Minister and the Leader of the Scottish Labour Party. Migrants who have set up sports project or are sports role-models gave talks as did our project partners, Show Racism the Red Card and IMIX. The two events engaged participants in discussions around the role sports role-models can play in changing the narratives and hostile rhetoric on migration.
- As part of the project, we created a number of videos – including educational videos where migrants shared their stories – which were used in schools in the North East as part of educational sessions by Show Racism the Red Card. There has been a huge impact on the 103 students at the schools who took part.
- Another group of migrants shared their experiences in two films on how migration is making Britain great. One of the films also features Gary Lineker and other sports celebrities promoting positive messages on migration.

This partnership project is funded by the European Philanthropic Initiative for Migration.

Winter Wellbeing partnership project

The 'Winter Wellbeing' project was a partnership with Povestry Democratic Citizenship Association which ran in 2023. We ran a number of activities through the winter months of that year to support the wellbeing of individuals, in particular those who are isolated and marginalised. Some of the expenditures for the project were wrapped up in the 23-24 financial year, which also saw further impact of the project:

- The project's creative writing sessions resulted in the creation of a multilingual book of stories of migration. The book, titled 'All Roads Lead to Glasgow', was launched during an event on International Migrants' Day in December 2023. Copies of the book were made available at Glasgow and Edinburgh libraries.

The work on this partnership project was funded by the Winter Social Wellbeing Fund 2022-23 – a grant from the Impact Funding Partners (Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership.)

Research

In this period, we finalised and launched our research on the living conditions in what is known as Home Office "contingency accommodation" and how it affects the lives of asylum seekers. Our research was carried out from November 2022, through a survey, group discussions and one-to-one interviews. The report, "No Rest, No Security" was published in April 2023.

Funding for this came from our core funding.

Volunteering and in-kind support

All Migrant Voice activities are supported by a large number of volunteers (including journalists) giving their time and skills to support the work.

In addition, Migrant Voice receives a significant amount of in-kind support in the form of venues, expert trainers, legal advice for our members and to support our campaigns, editors, etc.

The ongoing maintenance and hosting of our website in this period was done through in-kind donation to a value of £4,000.

Financial review

The Charity's income was £386,662 in the year ended 31 March 2024 compared to £340,296 in the year ended 31 March 2023. The total expenditure amounted to £425,434 the year to 31 March 2024 compared to £311,069 in the year ended 31 March 2023.The fund balance carried forward at 31 March 2024 was £107,807 on general unrestricted funds. The fund balance carried forward on restricted funds was £48,115 on 31 March 2024. The full Statement of Financial Activities is set out on page 15 of these accounts.

The financial outlook for 2024-25 is positive.

Reserves Policy

The Board of trustees aims to develop and maintain a level of unrestricted reserves which ensures that there are adequate funds to meet current and known future liabilities.

A formal policy on reserves was agreed at the 4 December 2012 meeting of the executive committee and last updated 18 November 2019. It states:

The trustees have set a reserves policy which works towards achieving that:
Reserves be maintained at a level which ensures that Migrant Voice's core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty. A proportion of reserves be maintained in a readily realisable form.

Most of MV's funding is restricted in some way and any restricted funds will be treated as restricted. MV will build its reserve from the unrestricted funding and through prudent savings. The organisation will build its reserves to reach the target by increased fundraising, increased earned income through e.g. training or presentation delivery, through donations, and through reducing expenditure.

We will aim to allocate an amount of £250 per month for the reserve (£3000 per year). This must come from unrestricted funds.

MV aims to have reserves equivalent to a minimum of 3 months running costs. At the moment our reserves are £114,984.

Investment policy and performance

The Memorandum & Articles of Association provides that the organisation invests moneys not immediately required for its own purposes in or upon such investments securities or properties as may- be thought fit. At the present time the trustees' policy is to maintain all such monies on deposits earning a market rate of interest.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which Migrant Voice is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Future plans for financial year 2024-2025

- Continue to implement our Theory of Change and our Strategy 2022-27, that builds migrants' voices, power, and influence further to challenge structural inequality and injustice faced by migrants by increasing our strategic impact and secure funding to undertake this work. We will also update our strategy on an ongoing basis in line with changes in the external environment.
- We will continue to strengthen our network of migrant hubs as the foundation for all our work including introducing new training and activities.
- We will continue our work to bring migrant voices into the public arena, be it in the media, or other policy or public platforms regionally, nationally and in Europe.
- We will continue our work to build migrants' collective power and influence, ensuring our rights are protected and migrants set the agenda on migration, especially through our visa fees campaign.
- We will work to strengthen existing collaborations and build new working relationships with partners and key stakeholders, to build solidarity and increase our impact; we will continue strengthening our convening role.
- We will work to increase the effectiveness of our media and campaign/advocacy work to affect systemic change directly engaging policy makers and building on our work with editorial teams.
- We will continue our collaboration with Glasgow Museums and launch our new exhibition of photography, zines and illustrations

-We will undertake a new survey with migrants on the impact of visa costs and long settlement routes

-We will be launching the Migration Making Britain Great films and continue to undertake educational activities to contribute to changing the narrative on migration

-We will continue to work on pitching the idea of a drama to highlight the injustice for the international students affected by the TOEIC allegations.

-We will continue working with our trained Ambassadors and undertake further preparations for 'Meet the Editors' including doing media monitoring.

- We will continue strengthening our organisational infrastructure and our monitoring and evaluation, and will fundraise to increase staff and organisational capacity.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a company limited by guarantee and a charity. It is operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated 11/02/2010 and most recently amended 11/07/2011. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)
Mr Jason Bergen
Mr Maurice Wren
Ms Sofi Taylor (Vice Chair)
Prof Ferdinando Sigona
Mr Wilfred Sullivan
Ms Dorrie Chetty
Ms Niketha Gamage-Watson (Resigned 11 March 2024)

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Overall management of the company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the memorandum and articles of association. Day to day project activity is managed and carried out by paid staff and/or volunteers.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)
Trustee
Dated: 4 December 2024

MIGRANT VOICE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF MIGRANT VOICE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Migrant Voice (the Migrant Voice) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the Migrant Voice (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Migrant Voice's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of 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 that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Migrant Voice as required by section 386 of the Companies Act 2006.

2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

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

4 the financial statements 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 financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Reddy Siddiqui LLP

Reddy Siddiqui LLP
183-189 The Vale
Acton
London
W3 7RW
United Kingdom
4 December 2024

MIGRANT VOICE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	3	1,675	100	1,775	100	-	100
Charitable activities	4	-	368,259	368,259	-	329,720	329,720
Other income	5	16,628	-	16,628	10,476	-	10,476
Total income		18,303	368,359	386,662	10,576	329,720	340,296
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	6	25,480	399,954	425,434	10,769	300,300	311,069
Total expenditure		25,480	399,954	425,434	10,769	300,300	311,069
Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds		(7,177)	(31,595)	(38,772)	(193)	29,420	29,227
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		114,984	79,710	194,694	115,177	50,290	165,467
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		107,807	48,115	155,922	114,984	79,710	194,694

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

MIGRANT VOICE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**11**		5,000		4,441
Current assets					
Debtors	**12**	485		485	
Cash at bank and in hand		153,626		193,385	
		154,111		193,870	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**14**	(3,189)		(3,617)	
Net current assets			150,922		190,253
Total assets less current liabilities			155,922		194,694
The funds of the Migrant Voice					
Restricted income funds	**15**		48,115		79,710
Unrestricted funds	**16**		107,807		114,984
			155,922		194,694

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 4 December 2024

Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)
Trustee

Company registration number 07154151 (England and Wales)

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Migrant Voice is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is VAI, 200a Pentonville Road, London, N1 9JP, United Kingdom.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Migrant Voice's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The Migrant Voice is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Migrant Voice has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Migrant Voice. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, [modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value]. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Migrant Voice has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Migrant Voice.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when Migrant Voice is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once Migrant Voice has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Migrant Voice has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is an obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses. The charity has a minimum value for all assets costing more than £350 capitalised.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures, fittings & equipment	25% on straight line basis

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Migrant Voice reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

1.9 Employee benefits

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Migrant Voice is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Migrant Voice's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total 2024	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	1,675	100	1,775	100	-	100

4 Charitable activities

	Charitable income 2024 £	Charitable income 2023 £
Barrow Cadbury Trust	28,200	12,072
ERDF - UIA - MiFriendly Cities	-	35,355
European Philanthropic Initiative for Migration (EPIM)	29,059	-
Esmee Fairbairn Funding Plus	9,309	-
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	80,000	80,000
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation – cost of living grant uplift	-	24,000
Hardship Fund	100	-
Human Rights Consortium Scotland	5,000	-
Impact Funding Partners (Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership)	-	6,510
John Ellerman Foundation	40,309	39,678
London churches Refugee Hardship Fund	1,000	-
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	55,000	-
The National Lottery Heritage Fund	29,734	13,901
The Tudor Trust	38,648	35,004
Trust for London	50,000	70,800
Unbound Philanthropy	-	10,000
University of Birmingham (Migzen)	2,000	2,400
Income from charitable activities	368,359	329,720

5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Other income	16,628	10,476

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Direct costs		
Staff costs	297,543	227,046
Depreciation and impairment	3,107	3,085
Charitable expenditure heading 1	64,306	23,519
	364,956	253,650
Share of support and governance costs (see note 7)		
Support	55,449	50,406
Governance	5,029	7,013
	425,434	311,069
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	25,480	10,769
Restricted funds	399,954	300,300
	425,434	311,069

7 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Support cost	55,449	-	55,449	50,406
Accountancy	-	2,924	2,924	4,939
Governance costs	-	2,105	2,105	2,074
	55,449	5,029	60,478	57,419
Analysed between				
Charitable activities	55,449	5,029	60,478	57,419

Accountancy / Governance costs is payments to the independent examination of £1,920 (2023: £1,920).

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Migrant Voice during the year.

During the year Trustees received reimbursement of expenses amounting to £1,302 (2023 - £1,463).

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Full time employees	4	5
Part time employees	6	4
Total	10	9

Employment costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	260,799	197,660
Social security costs	19,571	16,800
Other pension costs	17,173	12,586
	297,543	227,046

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2023	35,433
Additions	3,667
At 31 March 2024	39,100
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2023	30,992
Depreciation charged in the year	3,108
At 31 March 2024	34,100
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2024	5,000
At 31 March 2023	4,441

11 Tangible fixed assets **(Continued)**

The net book value of assets £5,000 breaks down as follows: Barrow Cadbury Trust/The National Lottery Community Fund COVID-19 Support Fund £259, The National Lottery Community Fund - Coronavirus Community Support Fund £312, Esmee Fairbairn Foundation £113, ERDF - UIA - MiFriendly Cities £682 and The National Lottery Heritage Fund £893, John Ellerman £484 and unrestricted funds: £2,257. These would be written down to nil in subsequent years

12 Debtors

	2024	2023
Amounts falling due within one year:	**£**	**£**
Other debtors	485	485

13 Movement in funds

Funders	Balance at 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
Barrow Cadbury Trust	5,499	28,200	24,984	8,715
Barrow Cadbury Trust/The National Lottery Community Fund COVID-19 Support Fund	517	-	259	258
ERDF - UIA - MiFriendly Cities	967	-	791	176
Esmee Fairbairn Funding Plus	-	9,309	9,309	-
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	40,954	80,000	86,922	34,032
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation – cost of living grant uplift	10,343	-	10,342	1
European Philanthropic Initiative for Migration (EPIM)	-	29,059	23,247	5,812
Hardship Fund	155	100	-	255
Human Rights Consortium Scotland	-	5,000	5,000	-
Impact Funding Partners (Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership)	2,759	-	2,754	5
John Ellerman Foundation	29,091	40,309	41,093	28,307
London Churches Refugee Hardship Fund	-	1,000	248	752
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	(4,635)	55,000	50,252	113
The National Lottery Community Fund - Coronavirus Community Support Fund	650	-	312	337
The National Lottery Heritage Fund	(19,997)	29,734	61,677	(51,940)
The Tudor trust	13,047	38,648	51,510	186
Trust for London	-	50,000	28,894	21,106
Unbound Philanthropy	273	-	273	-
University of Birmingham (Migzen)	87	2,000	2,087	-
	79,710	368,359	399,954	48,115

Out of the £48,115 restricted funds balance, £34,145 is budgeted for unrestricted purposes in line with the funding agreements (Esmee Fairbairn Foundation and Paul Hamlyn Foundation).

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other creditors	1,269	1,697
Accruals and deferred income	1,920	1,920
	3,189	3,617

15 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
	79,710	368,359	(399,954)	48,115

Previous year:	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
	50,290	329,720	(300,300)	79,710

16 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	114,984	18,303	(25,480)	107,807

Previous year:	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
General funds	115,177	10,576	(10,769)	114,984

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	2,257	2,743	5,000	672	3,769	4,441
Current assets/(liabilities)	45,858	105,064	150,922	79,038	111,215	190,253
	48,115	107,807	155,922	79,710	114,984	194,694

18 Related party transactions

During the year Migrant Voice entered into the following transactions with related parties: We were subcontracted by the University of Birmingham to deliver partner activities as part of the 'Rebordering Britain & Britons after Brexit' (Migzen) project funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). Prof Ferdinando Sigona who led the project and works for the University of Birmingham is a trustee of Migrant Voice.

MIGRANT VOICE

England & Wales - Charity number 1142963

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1142963 (England and Wales)
Charity Registration No. SC050970 (Scotland)

Company Registration No. 07154151 (England and Wales)

MIGRANT VOICE

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

MIGRANT VOICE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair) Mr Jason Bergen Mr Maurice Wren Ms Sofi Taylor (Vice Chair) Prof Ferdinando Sigona Mr Wilfred Sullivan Ms Dorrie Chetty Ms Niketha Gamage-Watson
Secretary	Mrs Nazek Ramadan Moussa
Charity number Charity number (Scotland)	1142963 (England and Wales) SC050970
Company number	07154151
Registered office	VAI, 200a Pentonville Road London United Kingdom N1 9JP
Independent examiner	Reddy Siddiqui LLP 183-189 The Vale Acton London United Kingdom W3 7RW

MIGRANT VOICE

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 13
Independent examiner's report	14
Statement of financial activities	15
Balance sheet	16
Notes to the financial statements	17 - 25

MIGRANT VOICE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with Migrant Voice's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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 2019)".

Objectives and activities

1. To advance education amongst migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, by the provision of training, advice and support, especially around media work.
2. To advance the education of the public in general and the media about the issues relating to migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.
3. To promote equality and diversity by the provision of activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds and to cultivate a sentiment in favour of equality and diversity.

We are a migrant-led national organisation which builds a community of migrant voices to speak for ourselves and call for justice for all. We work with all types of migrants, including refugees and asylum-seekers, across the UK.

We strive to create a society where migrants have full equality and achieve positive change for migrants – countering racism and xenophobia, discrimination and unjust policies, bringing communities together and bringing social justice - change which benefits the whole of UK society.

To achieve this, migrants need to build collective power and influence, ensure our rights are protected and have a seat at the decision-making table to set the agenda on migration.

Our mutually interconnected methodologies, guided by our Theory of Change, are:

- We build a bigger, stronger and deeper community of migrant voices across the UK via our Migrant Voices for Change Network, made up of regional hubs;
- We strengthen migrants' ability to influence and shape the media and public debate through training, brokering stories to the media and working with journalists and editors;
- We develop and conduct migrant-led campaigns and advocacy to change law and policy and individual outcomes, that are accountable to participating migrants;
- We facilitate and act as an anchor for migrant-led initiatives of a wider migration justice movement in alliance with other movements, by convening, collaboration, capacity-building and representation.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities Migrant Voice (MV) should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit.

Our Theory of Change (TOC) guides all of our work. In accordance with this, Migrant Voice has planned and run a series of successful projects and activities in this period in order to achieve our objectives.

Core organisational activities

Grants from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, John Ellerman Foundation, The Tudor Trust and Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, for core costs and towards the implementation of our strategy, have ensured our success in providing a platform for migrants to engage with the media and with policymakers, and to contribute to the public debate on migration. By putting migrant voices at the centre of these conversations, we aim to develop greater understanding and support for migrants' rights and pursue policy change to achieve those rights.

The balance of the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation Covid-19 fast response grant we first received in 2020-21 continued to contribute the core activities and running of the organisation this financial year.

The core funding provided stability for the organisation, enabling us to implement our strategy 2022-2027, and to strengthen the organisational, financial and administrative systems, and out our strategic communications. It has also ensured the continuity of the work, for example, by enabling us to continue to pay core staff and to successfully apply for new funding.

The core funding has contributed to the development and running of the organisation and therefore to the work of our UK Migrant Voices for Change Network in the three regions (London, West Midlands and Glasgow).

- We have worked on strengthening our monitoring, evaluation and data collection practices, testing new ways to capture and reflect on our impact.
- We recruited several new team members to join us, including a Coordinator for our Glasgow Network, a London Network Worker, and a Communications and Project Assistant in London. We started working with a new Advocacy and Communications Manager.
- We moved to new office premises in both Glasgow and Birmingham.
- We have worked with a consultant on a review of staff salary, pension and other benefits to be implemented at the beginning of the following financial year.
- We worked with an IT company on migrating our email server and setting up new systems.

As a result of the core funding, our Director and the staff team have continued to build stronger alliances and partnerships while also engaging with media, academics, policymakers, unions, and other civil society organisations.

Partnerships

We have worked with other organisations and groups on several specific issues in line with our Strategic Plan, and to address emerging topics and opportunities. This partnership work is a valuable part of our work, leading to the sharing of knowledge and expertise, organising joint events and collaborating on joint letters and policy asks.

Our partnership activities include many other collaborations within and beyond the migration sector, which are too numerous to mention here, but we include some examples below.

- We continued to strengthen our existing working relationships as well as meet with new groups and organisations to explore collaboration and avoid duplication. This includes the following:
    - *London*: The Iraqi Welfare Association, Latin American Women's Rights Service (LAWRS), Action for Refugee Lewisham (AFRIL), RefuAid, Syrian Charities and Associations Network (SCAN) UK, Tamil Welfare Association, Islington Chinese Association, Central Association of Nigerians in the UK, Union Chapel, Cotton Tree Trust.
    - *Glasgow: Glasgow Museums, Central West Integration Network, Garnethill Multicultural Centre, UNESCO RILA (Refugee Integration Through Languages & Art), University of Glasgow, University of West of Scotland, Community InfoSource, I Welcome Club, Glasgow Clyde College.*
    - *West Midlands: IKON Gallery, the University of Birmingham, Saathi House, 'Migration Policy and Practice', Centrala, the Journey group, and others.*
- We also met with Lambeth and Islington local authorities in London as part of our work to support asylum seekers in in hotels in London to raise awareness about their situation.
- We have signed several joint statements and letters in partnership with IMIX, Liberty, More in Common, JustFair, ILPA and others in support of asylum seekers and refugees and to counter the Home Secretary's language and narrative. One of the statements was on the occasion of Windrush day, and another was against 'the Rwanda plan' together with 170 organisations.
- We continue to meet with and work with groups in the sector including Praxis, Reunite Families, and JCWI to discuss how to raise the issue of visa and settlement process with cross-party politicians as part of our ongoing visa fees campaign.
- We continued our collaboration with the Human Rights Consortium Scotland, which works to promote and defend human rights in Scotland. We worked to develop a partnership project and to ensure that migrants are aware of their rights and are heard when developing human rights protections in the country.
- We have engaged with IMIX and Show Racism the Red Card (SRtRC) to plan and work on a partnership around challenging hostile narratives on migration. Our partnership project was launched in spring 2023.
- We have engaged with the British Film Institute (BFI) on an event on the representation of refugees in film.
- We joined a roundtable of the # StopRwanda coalition organised by the TUC where we spoke about the situation for asylum seekers in hotels.
- We have an ongoing engagement with the # StatusNow4All network sitting on their reference group, and also engaging with the network's activities and development.
- We continue to engage with the Home Office at two 'advisory groups', one on vulnerabilities in the context of post Brexit migration and the other on Settled Status implementation.

Our work with universities has also continued.

- Throughout the year we worked closely with the University of Westminster and partnered on a series of events, including a half day roundtable in September on externalisation of borders and a series of lectures at the University's Summer School.
- We worked with the Birmingham University Institute for Research into Superdiversity (IRiS) to contribute to a publication to mark their tenth anniversary and spoke on a panel about migration and the media at their conference.
- Our migrant Ambassadors and staff members contributed to a focus group on the future of press regulation and press ethics in the UK, sharing views based on our engagement with the media. This is part of ongoing engagement with the University of Derby on media ethics, which also included speaking on a panel together with the NUJ and Impress at a press ethics conference.
- We collaborated with the University of Glasgow on a series of Media Labs for our members as well other discussions and training.

International partnerships and cooperation

- We participated in the PICUM General Assembly and co-facilitated a session on the language and framing used in the migration justice sector around undocumented migrants. Our Director sits on the PICUM board.
- We continue our close engagement with the Rise network (Refugee Ideas and Solutions for Europe).
- We are represented on the board of European Anti-Poverty Network - England (EAPN) where we seek to ensure that migrant voices are included and heard in anti-poverty campaigns.
- We discussed potential collaboration with Unbias the News, a platform supporting and training journalists from underrepresented backgrounds.

UK Migrants for Change Network

We build a bigger, stronger and deeper community of migrant voices via our UK Migrant Voices for Change Network (UKMVC), made up of regional hubs in London, West Midlands and Scotland. This network forms the foundation for our work.

Our network's membership base is made up of migrants from a diverse range of communities, alongside UK citizens, journalists, academics, and colleagues from the migration justice sector.

Through the Migrant Voice Network, via our regional hubs we:

- provide safe spaces that transforms migrants' experiences and stories into a collective demand through identification of shared problems and solutions;
- mobilise migrants and help forge connection between them, different migrant communities and with wider communities;
- run training sessions, Media labs, discussions to increase migrants' knowledge, confidence, and skills to speak for ourselves;
- build partnerships with other organisations and stakeholders in the field of migration and social justice.

Network meetings and training are key to the UKMVC, as they create spaces for migrants from all backgrounds to come together to discuss issues affecting us, alongside building strategies to address them and speak out.

- In July we organised a national online network meeting to coincide with the tenth anniversary of the 10-year route to settlement. The event had 70 people in attendance and heard from people currently on the 10-year route, Migrant Voice campaigners advocating for a cap at five years, and a speaker from WeBelong.
- We held a network meeting in November in London to discuss the cost-of-living crisis and its impact on migrants. About 35 people took part, including representatives of migrants' rights groups, grassroots organisations, a member of the London Assembly as well as migrant members and asylum seekers living in London hotels.
- In April we organised a national roundtable on voting rights as part of our series of # BuildBackBetter events to look at what more we can do to ensure voting rights for migrants and other ways of making ourselves heard politically. The event heard from speakers across the UK, about migrants feeling disenfranchised, as well as good practice from Scotland where residence-based voting rights have been introduced. 30+ people attended from various regions.
- We continued working with the IKON gallery, the University of Birmingham and the photographer Vanley Burke on an exhibition showcasing portraits of migrant communities in Birmingham. The exhibition, 'A gift to Birmingham', of photos by the renowned Vanley Burke was shown at the Ikon gallery and Handsworth Library. Educational resources from the exhibition have also been launched and schools are using them.
- We started a women's group in Glasgow who met regularly for several months, contributing ideas to and taking part in our projects.

- Through the network's activities, we have supported our members to speak out to policy makers, including writing letters and speaking to their constituency MPs in both London and West Midlands. This has been highly successful: for instance, of the West Midlands members who've engaged with their MPs, all of them have had a response, and that their MP has taken action and written to the Home Office about their case.

Our training in speaking out in the media, to policy makers and the public, campaigning and advocacy form other essential activities of the UKMVC network; these are described later in this report.

The Barrow Cadbury Trust has funded the UKMVC hub in Birmingham. The Trust for London has funded our visa fees campaign work in London, contributing to key activities of our network. Most of our other funding also supports the work of the network, in particular our core funders, Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, John Ellerman Foundation, The Tudor Trust and the Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

Media training and work

We held numerous media training sessions in all three hubs, some for groups and some on an individual basis. Training topics included preparing for an interview, preparing your message, creating videos, and using social media.

Our training empowers migrants to speak for themselves and to engage effectively with the media. As a result of our training, members are becoming more articulate and confident speaking out.

We organised a number of Media Labs across our regions including:

- An in-person Media Lab in Glasgow facilitated by Simon Israel, from Channel 4. The Media Lab focused on how we can bring our stories to the media, how to develop and articulate our key messages, how to prepare for an interview and what are our rights, how to pitch the story to the media and finally which media platform is the appropriate one for our story. We had 20+ participants.
- A Media Lab in London in March about storytelling on social media.
- A series of Media Labs in Glasgow in February on photography, interviewing and storytelling in collaboration with Glasgow University.

As part of our campaign against extortionate visa fees, we organised two online national media training sessions on interview skills for speaking out on visa fees. The sessions covered how to prepare our messages and experiences in order to speak to the media or on public platforms ahead of our visa fees report launch event.

We also shared our learning by delivering training to other groups of migrants, including:

- A training for the 'Journey group' (an LGBT migrant group) in Birmingham on speaking to power.
- A media training for 10 former immigration detainees at the Samphire conference.

In the media

We work to strengthen migrant voices in the media and public debate to influence and shape these and speak up to power and across. This is with the aim that the media and public discourse on migration centres, includes and is informed by migrant voices and perspectives.

To this end, we continued implementing our proactive media strategy, pitching stories to the media, while also reacting to requests where we considered this productive.
Our members were featured and interviewed in different media outlets, including Birmingham Mail/Live, EasternEye, the Metro, ITV News, BBC Radio West, I Am Birmingham.

Our work and campaigns were featured in Sheffield Wire, Her-itage Magazine, PIE News, PoliticsHome.

As an organisation we provided comments and quotes to the Guardian, BBC News, LBC, Morning Star, PIE News, New Arab, InfoMigrants, the Independent, the Daily Express, GB News, Shout Out UK, Middle East Monitor, France Info.

Our members also contributed to a number of stories published on our website.

Our grant from the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, alongside contributions from other core funders, played a significant role in enabling us to do this work.

Speaking out to the public

As a result of our training, many of our migrant members also feel confident in speaking out in their communities and other public settings. Some examples include:

- We worked with Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery to organise a guided tour and discussion of the 'Blacklash: Racism and the struggle for self-defence' exhibition by the exhibition co-curators. Members who have been part of the visa fees campaign contributed by discussing old and new campaigns for justice. The Museum told us they shared the learning from our engagement across the Museum Trust.
- After our successful partnership on the Vanley Burke exhibition, the IKON Gallery in Birmingham hosted their annual "Soap Boxes" event where Migrant Voice members spoke about their experiences as migrants.
- We supported our members to speak out at a number of events, for instance an event in Birmingham City centre regarding the cost-of-living crisis, attended by campaigners, Trade Unions, community groups. Members got involved with groups looking to take action on the cost-of-living crisis, including food banks and unions. The discussions focus on issues which are affecting both UK citizens and migrants.

Campaigning, advocacy and policy influencing work

Thanks to our core funders, we have continued and expanded our work to bring migrants' voices and issues directly to policymakers with the goal of influencing policy changes.

We develop and conduct migrant-led campaigns and advocacy so that:

- Migration and other policies which affect migrants are formed with migrants' involvement, respecting and promoting migrants' rights and dignity;
- Migrants, with others, win campaigns and policy changes, individually and as groups, that improve their lives and society as a whole.

The campaign against extortionate visa fees

Our campaign for a fairer immigration system and against extortionate visa fees continued to raise awareness and broaden the support from MPs, and other stakeholders, such as unions, and other organisations inside and outside our sector.

- We had a very successful parliamentary launch of our report on visa costs in April hosted by Bell Ribeiro-Addy MP, with a panel of speakers with lived experience and MV staff sharing report findings to a room of 50+. Six MPs attended and pledged their support and others expressed interest and support. The Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration also attended.
- We ensured that 100s of MPs and Lords heard members' concerns and experiences around extortionate visa fees through our report sent to them.
- Following the launch we have built on the momentum by meeting with MPs Dan Carden, Kate Osamor, Bell Ribeiro-Addy and Sir Stephen Timms, as well as Sakina Sheikh from the Greater London Assembly. All pledged their support and offered suggestions for actions to take this forward, which we have worked collectively on including drafting resources for the policy makers.
- Dan Carden MP has drafted a joint letter to be sent to the Immigration Minister with Migrant Voice, other organisations and MPs, citing our report, and Bell Ribeiro-Addy MP asked written questions to the Home Office about extortionate visa fees.
- Two Early Day Motions about visa fees and the 10-year route to settlement were put forward in Parliament. They have received 21 and 16 signatures respectively.
- We produced briefings specific to policy areas impacted by visa fees, including on housing, food, and work, all areas that are badly affected by the cost-of-living crisis. The briefings were sent to MPs and organisations. We also made a submission to the Poverty Strategy Commission on visa fees' impact on people's financial situation.
- We ran a survey on the cost-of-living crisis and its impact on migrants, asking participants to share how the crisis has affected their finances and other aspects of their lives.

- We met with unions, including IWGB and TUC, to get their support for the campaign. Unison and the TUC have indicated that they will add their support to the campaign.
- We regularly meet with sector organisations, including Praxis, JCWI, RAMFEL, Reunite Families UK, WeBelong, GMIAU, etc to collaborate on how to effectively campaign together around visa fees and the ten-year route. This collaboration included:
    - We worked with Praxis and Reunite Families on an 'action week' to keep visa costs in the public awareness on the occasion of the 2022 UK mental health awareness week and International Day of Families and Children
    - We worked on an open letter with JCWI and Praxis to be sent to the Labour Front Bench. The letter explicitly mentioned our work on the issue and our report launched earlier in the year.
- In February, we organised a successful conference in London bringing together migrants, campaigners and organisations to discuss how we campaign to change our visa and immigration system. 80 people attended the event from across London and from around the UK.

 # MyFutureBack campaign

This is our campaign for justice for tens of thousands of international students who in 2014 were wrongly accused of cheating on an English language test (known as TOEIC) required for their visas. Many of the students lost their status; many were kicked out of universities, some were detained and others were deported. We continued to progress the campaign in several areas:

- We continue to work with the students and collaborate with Sir Stephen Timms MP, and legal representatives from 12 Old Square, Bindmans, and Garden Court chambers and others on supporting the students and achieving justice.
- In February, we organised an information session with barrister Michael Biggs for the TOEIC students who are still in limbo.
- In March we worked with a group of the students to write a letter to the Prime Minister asking him to help put an end to their injustice; it was signed by over 100 of the students. We organised a small demonstration outside Downing Street to deliver the letter together with Sir Stephen Timms MP.
- We conducted another survey to find out where students were in their journeys to justice.
- During this year, following the Home Office challenge to the use of our report by the students in their court cases, the court ruled that although the report itself would no longer be admissible, Migrant Voice's recording and transcript of the expert hearing of the APPG on TOEIC will be valid for the students to use in court cases going forward.

Our work with asylum seekers

- Between November and February we held a series of meeting with individuals seeking asylum and being accommodated in hotels around London. Their experiences and recommendations shaped our actions in the following months.
- We ran a survey which reached over 100 responses from asylum seekers about their experiences and recommendations and interviews were conducted with dozens of individuals.
- In December, we organised a social event and meal for asylum seekers in London, where we engaged with a local charity who provided food and food parcels. We also received generous donations from the general public such as clothing and toys that we were able to distribute. This event was also an opportunity to discuss and update on progress in raising awareness of their situation.
- We continued to organise other smaller gatherings and self-help groups after this and supporting individuals to write to their MPs, with letters, referrals to legal advice, and other signposting.
- We have trained and supported a number of individuals to speak out in the media and to policy makers.

- Based on the experience of about 200 asylum seekers, from our meetings, individual interviews and the survey, we produced a report on asylum seekers' conditions in London hotels and their experiences of the asylum system. The report also had contributions from local authorities and organisations we had worked with to support those seeking asylum. The report was published in late April 2023 and following this, asylum seeking members in London spoke to the London Mayor's Office about their living conditions in hotels and the challenges of going through the asylum process and the impact on their physical and mental health.

Other policy influencing work

Our work bringing the voices and experiences of migrants to policymakers has also included the following areas:

- We promoted Migrant Voice and our campaign work at the 2022 Labour Party Conference in Liverpool. We spoke with ten MPs, a large number of councillors and many Labour Party members who signed up to our mailing list and expressed their support for our work and campaigns, including our campaign against extortionate visa fees. Seventy people signed up to our newsletter.
- We met with representatives from the Ditchley Foundation to share our views and knowledge in order to influence the planning of their conference "A Hungry World on the move: the impact of the food crisis on migration and how we must respond" and made a presentation on a panel at the conference.
- Together with Amnesty International UK we made a joint submission to the inquiry on Family Migration by the Home & Justices Affairs Committee of the House of Lords.
- We made a joint submission with a number of organisations including JCWI, FLEX and TUC to the Migration Advisory Committee for their annual report on Exploitation of Migrants in the Labour Market. We also worked with the same groups to send a joint response to the Home Office regarding secure reporting as opposed to automatic data sharing with immigration enforcement.

Individual campaigns

- We worked to support one of our members Lewin, who was in treatment for cancer, with his campaign to remain on the UK. His campaign continues to gain support and over 135,000 have signed his online petition. We have continued to raise his story in the media, such as with Birmingham Live. We have also linked the issue when attending events organised by some of those campaigning to stop chartered flights to Jamaica.

The rights of EU nationals

- We continued our collaboration as partners in the Migzen project, led by University of Birmingham, looking at citizenship, migration and belonging post-Brexit. The research project explores the long-term impacts of Brexit on migration and migrants to uncover what this reveals about Britain's migration story and future. As part of the project we:
    - arranged interviews between our members in Birmingham and Glasgow and the University of Birmingham
    - fed into reports and supported with finding participants for the project's People's Panel.

The funding for this work came through the University of Birmingham.

- We were interviewed for a research project by Kingston University on migration, integration policies and migrant home-making in three European countries.
- We continue to engage with the Home Office at the 'user group' on Settled Status implementation.

Our work for regularisation of undocumented migrants

This year, a large part of our work to support migrants with irregular status to have a voice and call for regularisation was through our engagement as members of the reference group for the StatusNow4All network. This is a coalition of more than 150 groups, politicians, local authorities and organisations, that are calling for the regularisation of undocumented migrants in the UK and Ireland.

- We co-hosted the StatusNow4Allnetwork event for Refugee Week in June 2022, attended by 40 people. The event explored resistance to the Hostile Environment and the potential of setting up a People's Tribunal. Inspirational speakers from across the UK shared examples of the impact of the Hostile Environment on their communities and their resistance.
- We supported the funding for and organisation of a two-day strategy planning event for members of the StatusNow4All network leading to developing a clearer strategy going forward. This activity was funded by Unbound Philanthropy.

Meet a Migrant

In this period, we started a new phase of this pioneering project, which transfers the knowledge from phase one of 'Meet a Migrant' through tailored sessions for migrant community groups and individuals active in their communities, based on our toolkit, 'Making headlines'. We also worked to address structural inequalities that exclude migrants' voices from the media and from influencing policy.

Migrant Ambassadors and Meet the Editors

In our Ambassadors Programme, we share our own experience of migrants getting their voices in the media. We provide a comprehensive training for migrants who want to speak out to the media and share stories from their communities.

- In June we organised an event to celebrate the success of our collaboration with the Birmingham Mail. The event was attended by migrants, the editors and journalists from Birmingham Mail as well as journalists from other media, community organisations and members of the public. We created a film to capture our experience and learning from our collaboration with the Birmingham Mail through the Ambassadors and Meet the Editors engagement with them. The film was screened at the event. We will be sharing the film widely.
- We ran two rounds of our Ambassadors Programme in the West Midlands between October and January. 20 people attended in total.

- The relationship built with the Birmingham Mail resulted in continued work on a number of stories working with their community journalists and our members.
- We continued to build relationships with numerous journalists from other outlets across the country. We successfully pitched and had tens of stories published, with dozens of members speaking out.
- We continued working with the Universities of Glasgow and Westminster, to analyse the impact of our Meet the Editors sessions and to share knowledge and expertise and plan further joint work.

This project and the broader work of the communications team is funded by the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation and supported by other core funders.

The communications capacity enabled by this grant continues to be instrumental, increasing our output of media stories and website content, and improving our visibility, impact, and social media presence and our members' skills and media influencing.

The 'Putting Ourselves in the Picture' project

In partnership Glasgow Museums, our 'Putting Ourselves in the Picture' project in Glasgow is working to address the missing migration stories in the heritage of Scotland. The project aims to ensure migrants are engaging in a dialogue about how they are represented in museum collections. The vision is not only to see the heritage of migrants being identified as part of Scottish history and life, but also to it being better represented in public institutions. A key part of this partnership will see a year-long exhibition of photographs from two of our projects at the Kelvingrove Museum in Glasgow with a programme of events alongside them.

- Throughout the year we worked with Glasgow Museums on the preparations for the exhibition at Kelvingrove. We organised a series of meetings and discussions with our members to plan our activities for the project. We recruited volunteers and set up a women's group.
- In October we organised a social event to introduce the project and its activities.

- We formed two steering groups from our members, one for the project activities and another to work specifically on the planning, curation, delivery and evaluation of the exhibition at the Kelvingrove Museum and Art Gallery exhibition.
- In December we organised a consultation event at Kelvingrove Art Gallery with participants to find out how to engage them in the project, and which activities they would like us to organise.
- Glasgow members produced monthly "zines" sharing their thoughts creatively.
- A number of photography training sessions took place and illustration sessions will be taking place later in the year.
- A total of 32 participants took part in three discussions in collaboration with the University of Glasgow on media framing and the portrayal of migrants. These paved the way for identifying the themes for our upcoming exhibitions, making sure we avoid feeding into stereotypes and have the strongest messages.

The 'Putting Ourselves in the Picture' project is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. With thanks to National Lottery players.

Winter Wellbeing partnership project

The 'Winter Wellbeing' project was a partnership with Povestry Democratic Citizenship Association. We ran a number of activities through the winter months to support the wellbeing of individuals, in particular those who are isolated and marginalised. Activities included:

- We organised English conversation sessions and discussions and writing of poetry and stories on the themes of identity, migration, and community.
- A series of creative writing sessions for participants from 15 participants from countries including El Salvador, Syria, Pakistan, China, Mexico, and Poland. It led to the creation of a multilingual book of stories of migration by the participants, titled 'All Roads Lead to Glasgow'. It will be launched later in the year.
- Two multicultural ceilidhs, each bringing together over 120 people representing more than 20 nationalities.
- Two traditional art workshops from Poland and Iran were attended by a total of 22 participants, from Poland, Iran, Ireland, Scotland, Sweden, Bengal, Russia, Eritrea and China. Moreover, participants attended other training and heritage activities by Migrant Voice and were signposted to relevant services for support.

This project enabled us to engage more individuals in our wider work. The work on this partnership project was funded by the Winter Social Wellbeing Fund 2022-23 – a grant from the Impact Funding Partners (Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership.)

Research

In this period, we finalised and launched our research on the impact of the extortionate visa costs and application system on migrants. Our research, as part of our campaign against extortionate visa fees, was based on a survey, focus groups and interviews with affected migrants.

Our report was launched in Parliament in April 2022.

We carried out further research on how the cost-of-living crisis was affecting migrants, including those paying visa fees and on settlement routes. The results were included in a briefing sent to MPs.

Trust For London funded this work as part of our campaign against extortionate visa fees.

From November 2022, we also carried out research on the conditions of asylum seekers in contingency accommodation in London. This was done through a survey, group discussions and one-to-one interviews. A report with our findings was published in April 2023.

Funding for this came from our core funding.

Volunteering and in-kind support

All Migrant Voice activities are supported by a large number of volunteers (including journalists) giving their time and skills to support the work.

In addition, Migrant Voice receives a significant amount of in-kind support in the form of venues, expert trainers, legal advice for our members and to support our campaigns, editors, etc.

The ongoing maintenance and hosting of our website in this period was done through in-kind donation to a value of £3,000.

Financial review

The Charity's income was £ 340,296 in the year ended 31 March 2023 compared to £206,887 in the year ended 31 March 2022. The total expenditure amounted to £311,069 the year to 31 March 2023 compared to £300,309 in the year ended 31 March 2022.The fund balance carried forward at 31 March 2023 was £114,984 on general unrestricted funds. The fund balance carried forward on restricted funds was £79,710 on 31 March 2023. The full Statement of Financial Activities is set out on page 15 of these accounts.

Out of the £79,710 restricted funds balance £46,661 is budgeted for unrestricted core purposes in line with the funding agreements (Esmee Fairbairn Foundation – cost of living grant uplift, Esmee Fairbairn Foundation and Paul Hamlyn Foundation).

The financial outlook for 2023-24 is positive.

Reserves Policy
The Board of trustees aims to develop and maintain a level of unrestricted reserves which ensures that there are adequate funds to meet current and known future liabilities.

A formal policy on reserves was agreed at the 4 December 2012 meeting of the executive committee and last updated 18 November 2019. It states:

The trustees have set a reserves policy which works towards achieving that:
Reserves be maintained at a level which ensures that Migrant Voice's core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty. A proportion of reserves be maintained in a readily realisable form.

Most of MV's funding is restricted in some way and any restricted funds will be treated as restricted. MV will build its reserve from the unrestricted funding and through prudent savings. The organisation will build its reserves to reach the target by increased fundraising, increased earned income through e.g. training or presentation delivery, through donations, and through reducing expenditure.

We will aim to allocate an amount of £250 per month for the reserve (£3000 per year). This must come from unrestricted funds.

MV aims to have reserves equivalent to a minimum of 3 months running costs. At the moment our reserves are £114,984.

Investment policy and performance
The Memorandum & Articles of Association provides that the organisation invests moneys not immediately required for its own purposes in or upon such investments securities or properties as may- be thought fit. At the present time the trustees' policy is to maintain all such monies on deposits earning a market rate of interest.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which Migrant Voice is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which Migrant Voice is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Future plans for financial year 2023-2024
- Continue to implement our Theory of Change and our Strategy 2022-27, that builds migrants' voices, power, and influence further to challenge structural inequality and injustice faced by migrants by increasing our strategic impact and secure funding to undertake this work. We will also update our strategy on an ongoing basis in line with changes in the external environment.
- We will continue to strengthen our network of migrant hubs as the foundation for all our work including introducing new training and activities.
- We will continue our work to bring migrant voices into the public arena, be it in the media, or other policy or public platforms regionally, nationally and in Europe.
- We will continue our work to build migrants' collective power and influence, ensuring our rights are protected and migrants set the agenda on migration, especially through our visa fees campaign.
- We will work to strengthen existing collaborations and build new working relationships with partners and key stakeholders, to build solidarity and increase our impact; we will continue strengthening our convening role.
- We will work to increase the effectiveness of our media and campaign/advocacy work to affect systemic change directly engaging policy makers and building on our work with editorial teams.
- We will continue our collaboration with Glasgow Museums to launch our exhibition at the Kelvingrove Museum and Art Gallery.
- We will launch our report on asylum seekers' conditions in London hotels and their experiences of the asylum system.
- We will continue strengthening our organisational infrastructure, our monitoring and evaluation, implement the changes from our salary review, and will fundraise to increase staff and organisational capacity.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a company limited by guarantee and a charity. It is operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated 11/02/2010 and most recently amended 11/07/2011. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)
Mr Jason Bergen
Mr Maurice Wren
Ms Sofi Taylor (Vice Chair)
Prof Ferdinando Sigona
Mr Wilfred Sullivan
Ms Dorrie Chetty
Ms Niketha Gamage-Watson

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Overall management of the company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the memorandum and articles of association. Day to day project activity is managed and carried out by paid staff and/or volunteers.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)
Trustee
Dated: 19 December 2023

MIGRANT VOICE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF MIGRANT VOICE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Migrant Voice (the Migrant Voice) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the Migrant Voice (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the Migrant Voice 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 the Migrant Voice's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Migrant Voice's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of 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 that in any material respect:

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

2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3 the financial statements 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 financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Reddy Siddiqui LLP

Reddy Siddiqui LLP

183-189 The Vale
Acton
London
W3 7RW
United Kingdom

Dated: 19 December 2023

MIGRANT VOICE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	3	100	-	100	2,272	-	2,272
Charitable activities	4	-	329,720	329,720	-	151,934	151,934
Other income	5	10,476	-	10,476	52,681	-	52,681
Total income		10,576	329,720	340,296	54,953	151,934	206,887
Charitable activities	6	10,769	300,300	311,069	509	299,800	300,309
Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds		(193)	29,420	29,227	54,444	(147,866)	(93,422)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		115,177	50,290	165,467	60,733	198,156	258,889
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		114,984	79,710	194,694	115,177	50,290	165,467

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

MIGRANT VOICE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**11**		4,441		6,105
Current assets					
Debtors	**12**	485		-	
Cash at bank and in hand		193,385		160,588	
		193,870		160,588	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**14**	3,617		1,226	
Net current assets			190,253		159,362
Total assets less current liabilities			194,694		165,467
The funds of the Migrant Voice					
Restricted income funds	**15**		79,710		50,290
Unrestricted funds			114,984		115,177
			194,694		165,467

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 19 December 2023

Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)
Trustee

Company registration number 07154151 (England and Wales)

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Migrant Voice is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is VAI, 200a Pentonville Road, London, N1 9JP, United Kingdom.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Migrant Voice's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The Migrant Voice is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Migrant Voice has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Migrant Voice. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, [modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value]. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Migrant Voice has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Migrant Voice.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when Migrant Voice is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once Migrant Voice has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Migrant Voice has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is an obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses. The charity has a minimum value for all assets costing more than £350 capitalised.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures, fittings & equipment	25% on straight line basis

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Migrant Voice reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

1.9 Employee benefits

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Migrant Voice is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Migrant Voice's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Donations and gifts	100	2,272

4 Charitable activities

	Charitable income 2023 £	Charitable income 2022 £
Barrow Cadbury Trust	12,072	30,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust/The National Lottery Community Fund COVID-19 Support Fund	-	100
ERDF - UIA - MiFriendly Cities	35,355	-
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	80,000	-
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation – cost of living grant uplift	24,000	
Hardship Fund	-	500
Impact Funding Partners (Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership)	6,510	-
John Ellerman Foundation	39,678	-
London Community Support Fund - Trust for London	-	48,834
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	50,000
The National Lottery Heritage Fund	13,901	-
The Tudor Trust	35,004	-
Trust for London	70,800	22,500
Unbound Philanthropy	10,000	-
University of Birmingham (Migzen)	2,400	-
Income from charitable activities	329,720	151,934

5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Other income	10,476	52,681

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	227,046	198,591
Depreciation and impairment	3,085	4,138
Charitable expenditure heading 1	23,519	76,951
	253,650	279,680
Share of support and governance costs (see note 7)		
Support	50,406	18,151
Governance	7,013	2,478
	311,069	300,309
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	10,769	509
Restricted funds	300,300	299,800
	311,069	300,309

7 Support costs

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2023 £	2022 £
Support cost	50,406	-	50,406	18,151
Accountancy	-	4,939	4,939	1,944
Governance costs	-	2,074	2,074	534
	50,406	7,013	57,419	20,629
Analysed between				
Charitable activities	50,406	7,013	57,419	20,629

Accountancy / Governance costs is payments to the independent examination of £1,920 (2022: £1,440).

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Migrant Voice during the year.

During the year Trustees received reimbursement of expenses amounting to £1,463 (2022 - £534).

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Full time employees	5	3
Part time employees	4	6
Total	9	9

Employment costs	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	197,660	179,173
Social security costs	16,800	14,721
Other pension costs	12,586	4,697
	227,046	198,591

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment
	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2022	34,011
Additions	1,422
At 31 March 2023	35,433
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2022	27,907
Depreciation charged in the year	3,085
At 31 March 2023	30,992
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2023	4,441
At 31 March 2022	6,105

The net book value of assets £4,441 breaks down as follows: Barrow Cadbury Trust £189, Barrow Cadbury Trust/The National Lottery Community Fund COVID-19 Support Fund £518, The National Lottery Community Fund - Coronavirus Community Support Fund £625, Esmee Fairbairn Foundation £225, ERDF - UIA - MiFriendly Cities £1,473 and The National Lottery Heritage Fund £738, unrestricted funds: £672. These would be written down to nil in subsequent years

12 Debtors

	2023	2022
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Other debtors	485	-

13 Movement in funds

Funders	Balance at 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Barrow Cadbury Trust	12,958	12,072	19,531	5,499
Barrow Cadbury Trust/The National Lottery Community Fund COVID-19 Support Fund	776	-	259	517
ERDF - UIA - MiFriendly Cities	(32,704)	35,355	1,684	967
Esmee Fairbairn Covid-19 fast response grant	44,478	-	44,478	-
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	1,603	80,000	40,649	40,954
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation – cost of living grant uplift	-	24,000	13,658	10,342
Hardship Fund	155	-	-	155
Impact Funding Partners (formerly Voluntary Action Fund)	96	-	96	-
Impact Funding Partners (Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership)	-	6,510	3,751	2,759
John Ellerman Foundation	-	39,678	10,587	29,091
London Churches Refugee Hardship Fund	425	-	425	-
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	44,559	-	49,194	(4,635)
The National Lottery Community Fund - Coronavirus Community Support Fund	962	-	312	650
The National Lottery Heritage Fund	-	13,901	33,897	(19,996)
The Tudor trust	-	35,004	21,957	13,047
Trust for London	(23,018)	70,800	47,782	-
Unbound Philanthropy	-	10,000	9,727	273
University of Birmingham (Migzen)	-	2,400	2,313	87
	50,290	329,720	300,300	79,710

Out of the £79,710 restricted funds balance £46,661 is budgeted for unrestricted core purposes in line with the funding agreements (Esmee Fairbairn Foundation – cost of living grant uplift, Esmee Fairbairn Foundation and Paul Hamlyn Foundation).

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	-	(214)
Other creditors	1,697	-
Accruals and deferred income	1,920	1,440
	3,617	1,226

15 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
	50,290	329,720	(300,300)	79,710

Previous year:	At 1 April 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
	198,156	151,934	(299,800)	50,290

16 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
General funds	115,177	10,576	(10,769)	114,984

Previous year:	At 1 April 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
General funds	60,733	54,953	(509)	115,177

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total 2023	Unrestricted funds 2022	Restricted funds 2022	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	672	3,769	4,441	-	6,105	6,105
Current assets/(liabilities)	79,038	111,215	190,253	115,177	44,185	159,362
	79,710	114,984	194,694	115,177	50,290	165,467

18 Related party transactions

During the year Migrant Voice entered into the following transactions with related parties: We were subcontracted by the University of Birmingham to deliver partner activities as part of the 'Rebordering Britain & Britons after Brexit' (Migzen) project funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). Prof Ferdinando Sigona who led the project and works for the University of Birmingham is a trustee of Migrant Voice.

MIGRANT VOICE

England & Wales - Charity number 1142963

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1142963 (England and Wales)
Charity Registration No. SC050970 (Scotland)

Company Registration No. 07154151 (England and Wales)

MIGRANT VOICE

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

MIGRANT VOICE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair) Mr Jason Bergen Mr Maurice Wren Ms Sofi Taylor (Vice Chair) Prof Ferdinando Sigona Mr Wilfred Sullivan Ms Dorrie Chetty Ms Niketha Gamage-Watson
Secretary	Mrs Nazek Ramadan Moussa
Charity number Charity number (Scotland)	1142963 (England and Wales) SC050970
Company number	07154151
Registered office	VAI, 200a Pentonville Road London United Kingdom N1 9JP
Independent examiner	Reddy Siddiqui LLP 183-189 The Vale Acton London W3 7RW

MIGRANT VOICE

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 13
Independent examiner's report	14
Statement of financial activities	15
Balance sheet	16
Notes to the financial statements	17 - 24

MIGRANT VOICE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with Migrant Voice's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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 2019)".

Objectives and activities

1. To advance education amongst migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, by the provision of training, advice and support, especially around media work.

2. To advance the education of the public in general and the media about the issues relating to migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

3. To promote equality and diversity by the provision of activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds and to cultivate a sentiment in favour of equality and diversity.

We are a migrant-led national organisation which builds a community of migrant voices to speak for ourselves and call for justice for all. We work with all types of migrants, including refugees and asylum-seekers, across the UK.

We strive to create a society where migrants have full equality and achieve positive change for migrants – countering racism and xenophobia, discrimination and unjust policies, bringing communities together and bringing social justice - change which benefits the whole of UK society.

To achieve this, migrants need to build collective power and influence, ensure our rights are protected and have a seat at the decision-making table to set the agenda on migration.

Our mutually interconnected methodologies, guided by our Theory of Change, are:

-We build a bigger, stronger and deeper community of migrant voices across the UK via our Migrant Voices for Change Network, made up of regional hubs;

-We strengthen migrants' ability to influence and shape the media and public debate through training, brokering stories to the media and working with journalists and editors;

-We develop and conduct migrant-led campaigns and advocacy to change law and policy and individual outcomes, that are accountable to participating migrants;

-We facilitate and act as an anchor for migrant-led initiatives of a wider migration justice movement in alliance with other movements, by convening, collaboration, capacity-building and representation.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities Migrant Voice (MV) should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit

Our Theory of Change (TOC) guides all of our work. In accordance with that, Migrant Voice has planned and run a series of successful projects and activities in this period in order to achieve our objectives.

Core organisational activities

Grants from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation for core costs and a contribution from the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation have ensured our success in providing a platform for migrants to engage with the media and with policymakers and to contribute to the public debate on migration. By putting migrant voices at the centre of these conversations, we aim to develop greater understanding and support for migrants' rights, and pursue policy change to achieve those rights.

A grant from the London Community Response Fund for core funds contributed to the core salaries including a new role of a Business Development Manager.

The Covid-19 support grants we first received in 2020-21 continued to contribute significantly to the core activities and running of the organisation this financial year. These grants came from Barrow Cadbury Trust/The National Lottery Community Fund COVID-19 Support Fund, from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation a Covid-19 emergency grant and from the Esmee Fairbain Foundation a Covid-19 fast response grant. These grants were invaluable at a time when some other funders stopped accepting new applications and made a huge difference to our operation in the last as well as this financial year.

The core funding has helped provide stability for the organisation, enabling us to strengthen the organisational, financial and administrative systems, as well as further develop our strategic communications. It has also ensured the continuity of the work, for example, by enabling us to continue to pay core staff and to successfully apply for new funding.

The core funding has contributed to the continued running and development of the organisation and therefore to the work of our UK Migrant Voices for Change Network in the three regions (London, West Midlands and Glasgow).

As a result of this core funding, our Director has continued to build stronger alliances and partnerships while also engaging with media, academics, policymakers, unions, and other civil society organisations.

As Covid-19-related restrictions have eased, staff have started returning to work at the office when it is safe to do so.

In this year we recruited a Communications Intern in London and a Community Researcher in Glasgow. We also recruited a Communications Officer, who left in March 2022.

In May 2021, we were granted charitable status in Scotland, following our registration process, during which we added a charitable object to our governing document. Having charitable status in Scotland will strengthen our work there and present us with more opportunities to grow and prosper.

Theory of Change and Strategy document, 2022-27

This year our core support has helped us do a major review of our strategy. Over the last few years, Migrant Voice has embedded campaigning/lobbying into our methodology, transforming individual migrant voices into collective demands, directly engaging Members of Parliament, policy makers and other targets while leveraging our expertise in the use of media stories to call for change. At the same time, we stepped up our convening role in strategic partnership work with the purpose of bringing groups together, centring migrant voices through collaboration and normalising a migrant-led approach.

Our recent review confirmed these measures enhance our overall impact but are only ever possible when we maintain and build a community of migrant voices that is strong, growing and bound by deep trust. Reflection and learning exercises revealed that the original Theory of Change was in need of revision, so we revised our Theory of Change accordingly to bring more clarity and coherence to our organisational methodology.

From July 2021, a part-time Business Development Manager/Strategy Advisor led an organisational review process to update our strategic plan 2020-24, which was developed in summer 2019. We intended to conduct a review in our tenth anniversary year (2020), but this was postponed due to the pandemic.

Our new Theory of Change was drafted in September 2021 and it accurately reflects Migrant Voice's current methodology (which incorporates the newer element of campaigning, policy and advocacy work), learning and ambition, and emphasises the critical aspects of work we do and why. We have also drafted annual strategic objectives and an organisational development plan that closely ties in with the Theory of Change, key parts of our new strategy 2022-27.

Migrant Voice's strategy 2022-27, incorporating many elements from our previous strategic plan, is clearer in describing steps Migrant Voice is taking each year and more focused on creating impact at a structural level. Further deliberations with staff and the board took place to complete the new strategy, including discussions on outcome indicators and articulating how we work in a way that is generous, thoughtful and kind.

We used the rest of 2021/22 to start embedding the new Theory of Change and seeking resources for the implementation of the strategy 2022-2027.

Our plan for the future: Our new strategy 2022-27 has a year-on-year incremental approach that enables Migrant Voice to fully operationalise our Theory of Change with confidence, to build migrants' power and influence towards a systemic change. It aims to achieve the following:

- Migrants who work with us will increase their confidence and skills to communicate and advocate for themselves and their communities in the media, on other public platforms and in solidarity with host communities. Using their voice and agency powerfully, they will win more campaigns and policy changes that improve their lives and society as a whole.
- The media and other public platforms on migration will increasingly centre and include migrant voices and perspectives, moving away from a one-sided, simplistic or xenophobic approach with inaccurate or manipulative coverage and language.
- Politicians and policy makers will increasingly understand migrants as human beings not numbers, recognise the necessity and the benefits of involving us as legitimate stakeholders in policy making process, and ensure that policies that affect migrants are formed with our participation, respecting and promoting migrants' rights and dignity.
- Partners in the migration sector will increasingly set priorities rooted in and shaped by migrants' experience and they will work in a more collaborative, coordinated, and supportive manner which plays to each other's strengths while centring migrants' voices and perspectives.
- The wider social justice sector will more proactively integrate migration and migrants within their understanding of society, rather than as a topic that only the migration sector works on, and work in alliance with us.
- As an organisation, we will be more effective at creating long-lasting change by being clear about our working methodology and improving our organisational coordination and agility, while retaining our generous, thoughtful and kind way of working.

Partnerships

We have worked with other organisations and groups on several specific issues in line with our Strategic Plan and to address emerging topics and opportunities. This partnership work is a valuable part of our work, sharing knowledge and expertise, organising joint events and collaborating on joint letters and policy asks.

Our partnership activities include many other collaborations within and beyond the migration sector, which are too numerous to mention here. Some of our work with other organisations this year included the following:

- We met with a number of organisations to explore or strengthen our collaboration; these include: Hackney Refugee and Migrant Forum, Stepstone4, International Women's Peace Group (IWPG), Stop Funding Hate, Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (JCWI), Citizens UK, Refugee and Asylum Participatory Action Research (RAPAR), Kanlungan, Regularise, Stop Asian Hate.
- We have an ongoing engagement with the # StatusNow4All network sitting on their reference group and also engaging with the network's activities and development.
- We are represented on the board of European Anti-Poverty Network - England (EAPN) where we seek to ensure that migrant voices are included and heard in anti-poverty campaigns.
- We continue to be a member of the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM). Our director is now a board member of PICUM.
- As part of our My Future Back campaign, we continued to strengthen our relationships with several legal firms, including Bindmans, who we worked with to launch the 'TOEIC Justice project'. The project supports students to make a joint compensation claim through Bindmans.
- We organised a meeting to explore cross-referral with legal advice and organisations in the West Midlands to strengthen collaboration and the impact of our campaign work.
- We attended meetings of the APPGs on migration, on Refugees, and on Immigration Law and Policy.
- We continue to engage with the Home Office at two 'advisory groups', one on vulnerabilities in the context of post Brexit migration and the other on Settled Status implementation.
- We have issued several joint briefings on issues affecting migrants and migration with other organisations such as Safe Passage, Amnesty International, and the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants.
- We worked with the IKON gallery in Birmingham on a series of events: two exhibitions including portraits of our members and a soap box event where one of our members spoke out on extortionate visa fees. One of the exhibitions was covered by World News TV, BBC Midlands, Birmingham Live and I Am Birmingham.
- We facilitated a workshop at a Migration Museum Midlands networking event with other cultural institutions and museums who have worked with or have an interest in collaborating with migrant groups. We shared migrants' own perspectives on how cultural institutions could best engage meaningfully with migrants.
- We supported a number of asylum seekers who crossed the Channel and were rescued by the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) to speak at one of the RNLI events, and we amplified their communications while they were facing increased criticism for their role in saving migrants crossing the English Channel.

Our work with universities has also continued.

- We are partners in the Migzen project led by University of Birmingham looking at citizenship, migration and belonging post-Brexit. In this period, we contributed to meetings developing the various phases of the project.
- We continued to work with the University of Westminster for our Meet the Editors initiative and further collaboration on migration narrative issues.
- We contributed to the University of Birmingham workshop on sexual- and gender-based violence and forced migration.
- We have contributed to the Oxford Reader's Guide on ethical migration reporting developed by Oxford University.

UK Migrant Voices for Change Network

The UK Migrant Voices for Change Network (UKMVC) is the foundation for all our work across our regions and hubs. Our network's membership base is made up of migrants from a diverse range of communities, alongside UK citizens, journalists, academics, and colleagues from the migration justice sector.

Through the UKMVC hubs we engage in activities to ensure migrants have the skills, confidence, tools and platforms to speak out in the media, campaign or advocate for migrants' rights. The aim is always to create positive change for migrants, bringing about social justice and campaigning against discrimination, xenophobia, racism and unjust policies. These changes benefit everybody in society.

Network meetings and training are key to the UKMVC, as they create safe spaces for members to come together to discuss issues affecting them, alongside building strategies to address them and speak out.

Throughout this period, we held network meetings both online and in person. Some were in our three regions and some were national, taking advantage of technology to bring our members together from all over the country.

- We held national network meetings on topics including our campaign against extortionate visa fees; the 10-year route to settlement; and the new health care worker visa. Other meetings were organised to gather views in order to feed into the consultation on the new Borders Bill, and to support members to submit individual responses.
- In August 2021, we held an emergency national network meeting in response to the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan with several Afghan speakers including a recently arrived refugee.
- Other meetings discussed how best to use the media to amplify our voices and campaign messages to achieve the change we want. Some stories were pitched to the media as a result and some members connected with journalists to pursue some of the stories.

We organised our last online social meetings, Cup'a'Tea, allowing our members to stay connected and check in with one another. The gatherings provided a place for our members to catch-up and share their thoughts and feelings throughout Covid-19 and to feel connected and less isolated.

We held three focus groups with our Glasgow members to learn from them about their experiences, current challenges and the impact of Covid-19. The focus groups, one with asylum seekers, one with migrant workers and one with EU nationals, explored what Migrant Voice can do to support and provide a platform for migrants to have a voice on the issues affecting them.

We organised one of a series of our "Build Back Better" round tables for International Migrants Day in December, bringing our Migrant Ambassadors together with journalists to discuss the challenges and opportunities for migrants in making their voices heard in the media.

In partnership with EAPN England, we held two focus groups and a survey to learn more about migrants' experiences during Covid-19 and the support they lacked, in order to inform our future activities.

Our training in speaking out in the media, to policy makers and the public, campaigning and advocacy form other essential activities of the UKMVC network, which are described later in this report.

The Barrow Cadbury Trust has funded the UKMVC hub in Birmingham. The Trust for London has funded our visa fees campaign work in London, contributing to key activities of our network. Most of our other funding also supports the work of the network.

Media training and work

Our training in speaking out in the media, to policy makers and the public, campaigning and advocacy is another essential activity of the UKMVC network. We delivered media training sessions in all three hubs, some for groups and some on an individual basis. Training topics included preparing for an interview, preparing your message, creating videos, using social media, writing letters to the editor.

Our training empowers migrants to speak for themselves and to engage effectively with the media. As a result of our training, members are becoming more articulate and confident in having a voice.

We also shared our learning by delivering training to other groups of migrants, including:

- A media training in London for a group of young leaders at Praxis
- Two media training sessions for a group of young refugees for Refugee Education
- We supported the 'Stop Asian Hate' group in the West Midlands with training, media coverage and campaigning
- In the West Midlands, we also ran a training session for the 'Journey group' for LGBTQI asylum seekers and for New Hope Global
- A media training session in Glasgow for migrants from Eastern and South East Asian groups in Scotland on how to better engage with journalists and manage challenges when speaking out and supporting the media to tell stories about discrimination against Asian communities.

In the media

We continued implementing our proactive media strategy, pitching stories to the media, while also reacting to requests where we considered this productive.

Our members were featured and interviewed in different media outlets, including BBC News, ITV, the Daily Record, the Birmingham Mail, Study International, the Morning Star, the Guardian, PinkNews, the i Paper, while one of our members, whose campaign we supported, had his story featured in the Birmingham Mail, The Mirror, The Voice, in the Phoenix Newspaper and the Caribbean outlet, Jamaica Loop News.

As an organisation we provided comments and quotes to the Independent, the Birmingham Mail, Wales Online, Metro, I Am Birmingham, and The National and many others.

Our members also contributed to a large number of stories published on our website.

Speaking out in other settings

As a result of our training, many of our migrant members also feel confident in speaking out in their communities and other public settings. Some examples include:

- We supported two asylum seekers who made the channel crossing and were rescued by the RNLI to speak at their annual conference to raise awareness of the experiences of people who make the crossing.
- We brought a number of asylum seekers to speak to groups of health care professionals as part of a training programme to ensure NHS staff are better prepared to support asylum seekers' health care provision.

Campaigning, advocacy and policy influencing work

Drawing on core funding, we have continued and expanded our work to bring migrants' voices and issues directly to policymakers with the goal of influencing policy changes.

The campaign against extortionate visa fees

Thanks to our grant from Trust for London, we have expanded and developed our visa fees campaign in this year.

- Throughout spring and summer 2021, we brought together people affected by visa fees through focus groups, interviews and an online survey to develop, inform and influence what the campaign should ask and how to take it forward.
- We set up a steering group with a majority who are directly affected by visa fees and some academic, legal and policy experts. The members have agreed the role and purpose of the group and a terms of reference, and discussed our plans going forward.
- We held several national network meetings, creating spaces for migrants affected by visa fees to come together to share experiences, get information and share solutions.
- To build skills to effectively contact and lobby their MPs, we have held training sessions for migrants on how to write letters to their MP on the issue of visa fees. This was to kick-start weeks of action where many members wrote to their MPs on the issue.

- Undertaking listening exercises and exploring migrants' experiences of the issue enabled us to produce a research report as a key part of our public facing campaign activity. The report was launched in parliament in April 2022.
- To build a broader coalition support for our campaign, we organised meetings with a range of organisations, including several unions such as the TUC and the UCU for strategic partnership.
- We supported migrants to speak out to the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration (ICIBI). This further strengthened our relationship with the ICIBI and provided migrants with the direct access to those who can influence policy.

Our campaign is national and we continue our efforts to raise funds for the work nationally.

 # MyFutureBack campaign

This is our campaign for justice for tens of thousands of international students who were wrongly accused of cheating on an English language test (known as TOEIC) required for their visas. Many of the students lost their status; many were kicked out of universities, some were detained and others were deported. We continued to progress the campaign in several areas:

- Our campaign continued to receive media coverage, including in May 2021, when one of our members was featured in a Long Read in the Guardian, which brought renewed attention to the TOEIC scandal.
- In July 2021, we launched the 'TOEIC Justice project' jointly with the law firm Bindmans. The project supports students to make a joint compensation claim through Bindmans.
- The campaign was boosted in February 2022 when a new BBC Newsnight documentary aired. The documentary covered the government's handling of the scandal and the consequences on the innocent students wrongly accused of cheating. Several of the students in our campaign were interviewed for the documentary.
- The Newsnight coverage provoked parliamentary questions and debate where ten MPs put questions to Immigration Minister Kevin Foster. They shared our campaign's calls for justice and our demands to implement a simple, clear process for the students to get justice.
- The campaign received further coverage in the media, including: ITV London, Study International, BBC News, the Morning Star, the Guardian, the Saudi Gazette. Members and MV staff were interviewed for these stories.
- Students continue to win their individual cases and clear their names, and many have started to rebuild their lives.

The work on the # MyFutureBack campaign was possible because of the generous donations of some of our funders to our core work.

The rights of EU nationals

- Our work in this period focused on amplifying the experiences of our members who spoke out to us and those of other organisations in the sector who provide front-line legal advice.
- We are partners with the University of Birmingham, the3million, and British in Europe on a new project, 'Rebordering Britain & Britons after Brexit.' The research project will explore the long-term impacts of Brexit on migration and migrants to uncover what this reveals about Britain's migration story and future. We contributed to meetings developing the various phases of the project. The project has published a series of reports between March 2021 and July 2022, and the research is ongoing.
- We continue to sit on the Home Office group which advises on the development and implementation of the EU Settlement Scheme and we also raised issues of EU nationals in the Vulnerability Advisory Group, which looks at post-Brexit migration.
- We are part of the EU citizens' rights monitoring network, run by the EU Commission in the UK, alongside the EU27 embassies and sector organisations, and take part in meetings of the EUSS alliance of civil society organisations working with EU nationals.
- We are supporters of the POMOC and the Young Europeans Network 'Our vote our home' residence-based voting rights campaign.

Our work with undocumented migrants

In this period, a large part of our work with undocumented migrants was through our collaboration with and membership of the StatusNow4All network. The network launched at the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic and called on the government to grant Leave to Remain to all undocumented, destitute and migrant people in the legal process. In this way every human, irrespective of their nationality or citizenship, can access healthcare, housing, food and the same sources of income from the State as everyone else. (The network comprises over 140 organisations from NGOs, unions, local authorities and others).

In this period, we also engaged with over 700 people with limited immigration status and no recourse to public funds through our Building Resilience project (see below).

We continue to work with undocumented migrants to get their stories into the media and raise awareness about their realities. We run training and activities to ensure they are heard and part of the conversation about their future in the UK.

We remain an active member of the global network PICUM (Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants), sharing the experiences of our members and contributing to the work for the rights of individuals with no documented status. Migrant Voice is now represented on the board of PICUM.

Individual campaigns

In the West Midlands we support and build the skills of individual members to advocate and campaign for their rights. These 'individual' campaigns address wider systemic issues through our campaign model, turning individual stories into communities' collective demands for change.

We use the learning from our national campaign models and the same elements of combining media coverage with targeted lobbying of policy makers and bringing in help from legal experts, but bring it to the hyper-local level.

- We have supported a Jamaican cancer sufferer in his campaign for his right to remain. His story has been featured in different media, including ITV, Birmingham Mail, the Voice Newspaper and the Mirror and his campaign petition reached over 140,000 signatures. (He was granted temporary leave in July 2022.)
- We continued to support a Sikh elderly woman in her campaign, working closely with the Sikh community and her local supporters. Her online petition has reached over 65,000 signatures.
- We supported a young Afghan asylum seeker who came to the UK as an unaccompanied minor to set up a campaign and trained him to speak out in public and to the media. His campaign petition has almost 35,000 signatures and he was featured in various media. His campaign has since been successful and he has won the right to stay in the UK.
- We supported a woman to speak out about her battle to be reunited with her husband. Her Kurdish husband's visa was eventually granted and he was able to join her in the West Midlands.

Other policy influencing work

Our work bringing the voices and experiences of migrants to policymakers has also included the following areas.

- We convened a meeting for the Rise network members (a coalition of migrant and refugee-led organisations and groups in 17 EU countries) on the situation for Afghan refugees. The network issued a joint statement as a result, which was sent to the EU commission, the UN, the UK and EU governments and others.
- We have submitted responses to several Home Office consultations, including jointly with other organisations, on topics such as the New Plan for Immigration and leave to remain for partners of settled individuals.

- We worked with Amnesty International UK on a number of joint briefings to amendments proposed to the Borders Bill as part of the committee stage in the House of Commons and to the second reading in the House of Lords. These were informed by the experiences of our members. We got mention in the media for our statement to the House of Lords.
- In our work to oppose key aspects of the government's Nationality and Borders Bill, we brought together a coalition of organisations and individuals from different backgrounds, communities, faiths, and political affiliation to sign an open letter to the Prime Minister. The letter called for the removal of Clause 9 of the proposed legislation, which would mean a person could have their UK citizenship revoked without notice.
- In May 2022, we wrote to all the mayoral candidates in the West Midlands with our manifesto asks on migration. Two of the mayoral candidates in the West Midlands responded and were open to collaboration.

The Building Resilience project

Our "Building Resilience" project engaged over 700 migrants in this period. The project, which is a partnership with RAPAR (Refugee and Asylum Participatory Action Research) and Kanlungan Filipino Consortium, worked to organise, empower and build networks with some of the migrant communities most marginalised by Covid-19.

Overall, this project created safe spaces for migrants to discuss the impact of the pandemic and shared experiences, and form networks of solidarity. It also organised, empowered and built networks particularly in London and Southeast, the Midlands, and the North of England.

In this period, we trained participants to speak to their MP to address issues they are facing. We held community workshops training migrants on documenting their experiences through creative writing and video production, provided information on other services available, and organised meetings and discussions to create communities that can sustain and support each other better during the pandemic and in the future.

Project participants created eight videos telling their own stories, which we shared widely.

Our report, 'Releasing resilience and building networks of resilience', shared the learning and findings from the project and was covered by SkyNews, Birmingham Mail, the i Paper, and PinkNews.

The project was made possible thanks to a funding from the Coronavirus Community Support Fund, distributed by The National Lottery Community Fund and the UK Government.

The MiFriendly Cities project

The first part of this year saw the conclusion of the three-year MiFriendly Cities project we were partners on. Over the years we have brought our expertise in supporting migrants with training to tell their stories, which has contributed to the project's aims to ensure migrants and refugees are fully part of the West Midlands and their voices, skills and passion contribute to strengthening the social and economic fabric of the region for the benefit of all.

In this period, direct activities with participants had gradually stopped, and following the project's final celebration event in March 2021, our focus was on working with the project partners on planning the evaluation, a toolkit/ guidebook and ensuring a legacy for the project and activities.

This project was a partnership with ten others: Coventry City Council (lead), City of Wolverhampton Council, Birmingham City Council, Central England Law Centre, Coventry University, Refugee and Migrant Centre, Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre, Coventry University Social Enterprise, Interserve, and MigrationWork.

MiFriendly Cities was funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and forms part of the EU's Urban Innovative Actions (UIA) initiative.

The Meet a Migrant project

This period saw the conclusion of this pioneering project, which transfers the knowledge from phase one of Meet a Migrant through tailored sessions for migrant community groups and individuals active in their communities, based on our toolkit, 'Making headlines'. We also worked to address structural inequalities that exclude migrants' voices from the media and from influencing policy.

In our Ambassadors Programme, we share our own experience of migrants getting their voices in the media. We provide a comprehensive training for migrants who want to speak out to the media and share stories from their communities. We delivered training to a new group of Migrant Ambassadors in the West Midlands and continued to work with the Ambassadors in the three regions we had already trained through ongoing mentoring. Taking advantage of the benefits of working online, we were able to bring together the Ambassadors from across the country to share experiences, exchange learning and further their skills in our new Ambassadors hub.

During this time, we prepared for and organised Meet the Editors meetings with the BBC London News and Birmingham Mail, where members had the opportunity to provide feedback directly to editors on the news outlet's media coverage and pitch untold stories from their communities.

In particular, the relationship built with the Birmingham Mail resulted in continued work on a number of stories involving our members and their community journalists. The London iteration of Meet the Editors resulted in two stories published on the BBC TV and website on concerns about the EU Settlement deadline.

We also continued to build relationships with numerous journalists from other outlets across the country. We successfully pitched and had tens of stories published, with dozens of members speaking out. For example, our trained Ambassadors have been featured or collaborating with MyLondon, the Equality Trust website, the Conversation, Al Jazeera, I Am Birmingham, the Morning Star and Economy.

We continued working with the Universities of Glasgow, Coventry and Westminster, to analyse the impact of our Meet the Editors sessions and to share knowledge and expertise and plan further joint work.

This project and the broader work of the Communications Officer is funded by the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation. The communications capacity enabled by this grant continues to be instrumental, increasing our output of media stories and website content, and improving our visibility, impact, and social media presence and our members' media influencing.

Research

In this period, we carried out research on the impact of the extortionate visa costs and application system on migrants. Our research, as part of our campaign against extortionate visa fees, was based on a survey, focus groups and interviews with affected migrants.

The research report paints a difficult picture of the living conditions of many migrants on settlement routes or otherwise paying visa fees to remain in the UK. We found that visa costs impact on almost all aspects of many migrants' lives, such as work, debt, health and family life. Two thirds of our survey respondents were or had been in debt in order to pay the visa fees, and the overwhelming majority – 95% – felt negatively about their current situation.

Our report was launched in Parliament in April 2022. Trust For London funded this report as part of our campaign against extortionate visa fees.

Volunteering and in-kind support

All Migrant Voice activities are supported by a large number of volunteers (including journalists) giving their time and skills to support the work.

In addition, Migrant Voice receives a significant amount of in-kind support in the form of venues, expert trainers, legal advice for our members and to support our campaigns, editors, etc.

The ongoing maintenance and hosting of our website in this period was done through in-kind donation to a value of £4,000.

Financial review

The Charity's income was £206,887 in the year ended 31 March 2022 compared to £474,230 in the year ended 31 March 2021. The total expenditure amounted to £300,309 the year to 31 March 2022 compared to £318,631 in the year ended 31 March 2021.The fund balance carried forward at 31 March 2022 was £115,177 on general unrestricted funds. The fund balance carried forward on restricted funds was £50,290 on 31 March 2022. The full Statement of Financial Activities is set out on page 15 of these accounts.

The financial outlook for 2022-23 is positive.

Reserves Policy

The Board of trustees aims to develop and maintain a level of unrestricted reserves which ensures that there are adequate funds to meet current and known future liabilities.

A formal policy on reserves was agreed at the 4 December 2012 meeting of the executive committee and last updated 18 November 2019. It states:

The trustees have set a reserves policy which works towards achieving that:

Reserves be maintained at a level which ensures that Migrant Voice's core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty. A proportion of reserves be maintained in a readily realisable form.

Most of MV's funding is restricted in some way and any restricted funds will be treated as restricted. MV will build its reserve from the unrestricted funding and through prudent savings. The organisation will build its reserves to reach the target by increased fundraising, increased earned income through e.g. training or presentation delivery, through donations, and through reducing expenditure.

We will aim to allocate an amount of £250 per month for the reserve (£3000 per year). This must come from unrestricted funds.

MV aims to have reserves equivalent to a minimum of 3 months running costs. At the moment our reserves are £115,177.

Investment policy and performance

The Memorandum & Articles of Association provides that the organisation invests moneys not immediately required for its own purposes in or upon such investments securities or properties as may- be thought fit. At the present time the trustees' policy is to maintain all such monies on deposits earning a market rate of interest.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which Migrant Voice is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Future plans for financial year 2021-22

- Continue the work to implement our Theory of Change and our Strategy 2022-27, that builds migrants' voices, power and influence further to challenge structural inequality and injustice faced by migrants by increasing our strategic impact and secure funding to undertake this work.

- We will work to further strengthen our network of migrant hubs as the foundation for all our work including carrying out scoping to expand the network through partnership, while generally increasing our geographical reach.

- We will continue our work to bring migrant voices into the public arena, be it in the media, or other policy or public platforms regionally, nationally and in Europe.

- We will continue our work to build migrants' collective power and influence, ensuring our rights are protected and migrants set the agenda on migration.

- We will work to strengthen existing collaborations and build new working relationships with partners and key stakeholders, to build solidarity and increase our impact.

- We will work to increase the effectiveness of our media and campaign/advocacy work to affect systemic change directly engaging policy makers and building on our work with editorial teams.

- In line with our strategic priorities, we will continue to work on the following areas: Lack of regular status for undocumented migrants including our MyFutureBack Campaign; lack of certainty and rights protection for EU migrants during and after Brexit; Development of post-Brexit immigration policies including the impact of Nationality and Border Bill; Rising cost of migration to the UK – extortionate visa fees.

- We will continue and further strengthen our convening role in strategic partnership work with a purpose of bringing groups together, centring migrant voices through collaboration and normalising a migrant-led approach.

- We will improve our organisational infrastructure, fundraise to increase staff capacity and strengthen our monitoring and evaluation skills.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a company limited by guarantee and a charity. It is operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated 11/02/2010 and most recently amended 11/07/2011. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)
Mr Jason Bergen
Mr Maurice Wren
Ms Sofi Taylor (Vice Chair)
Prof Ferdinando Sigona
Mr Wilfred Sullivan
Ms Dorrie Chetty
Ms Niketha Gamage-Watson

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Overall management of the company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the memorandum and articles of association. Day to day project activity is managed and carried out by paid staff and/or volunteers.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)
Trustee
Dated: 6 December 2022

MIGRANT VOICE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF MIGRANT VOICE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Migrant Voice (the Migrant Voice) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the Migrant Voice (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the Migrant Voice 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 the Migrant Voice's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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 that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Migrant Voice as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3 the financial statements 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 financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Reddy Siddiqui LLP

Reddy Siddiqui LLP

183-189 The Vale
Acton
London
W3 7RW

Dated: 6 December 2022

MIGRANT VOICE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	3	2,272	-	2,272	12,940	-	12,940
Charitable activities	4	-	151,934	151,934	-	434,805	434,805
Other income	5	52,681	-	52,681	26,485	-	26,485
Total income		54,953	151,934	206,887	39,425	434,805	474,230
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	6	509	299,800	300,309	2,383	316,248	318,631
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		54,444	(147,866)	(93,422)	37,042	118,557	155,599
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		60,733	198,156	258,889	23,691	79,599	103,290
Fund balances at 31 March 2022		115,177	50,290	165,467	60,733	198,156	258,889

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

MIGRANT VOICE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**10**		6,105		4,092
Current assets					
Debtors	**11**	-		93	
Cash at bank and in hand		160,588		259,187	
		160,588		259,280	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**13**	(1,226)		(4,483)	
Net current assets			159,362		254,797
Total assets less current liabilities			165,467		258,889
Income funds					
Restricted funds			50,290		198,156
Unrestricted funds			115,177		60,733
			165,467		258,889

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 6 December 2022

Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)
Trustee

Company registration number 07154151

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Migrant Voice is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is VAI, 200a Pentonville Road, London, N1 9JP, United Kingdom.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Migrant Voice's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The Migrant Voice is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Migrant Voice has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Migrant Voice. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, [modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value]. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Migrant Voice has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Migrant Voice.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when Migrant Voice is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once Migrant Voice has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Migrant Voice has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is an obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses. The charity has a minimum value for all assets costing more than £350 capitalised.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures, fittings & equipment	25% on straight line basis

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Migrant Voice reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

1.9 Employee benefits

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Migrant Voice is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Migrant Voice's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022	2021
	£	£
Donations and gifts	2,272	12,940

4 Charitable activities

	Charitable income 2022 £	Charitable income 2021 £
Barrow Cadbury Trust	30,000	26,300
Barrow Cadbury Trust/The National Lottery Community Fund COVID-19 Support Fund	100	48,500
ERDF - UIA - MiFriendly Cities	-	49,941
Esmee Fairbairn Covid-19 fast response grant	-	84,252
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	-	60,504
Impact Funding Partners (formerly Voluntary Action Fund)	-	9,992
Hardship Fund	500	-
London Community Support Fund - Trust for London	48,834	-
Moneygram	-	3,612
Paul Hamlyn Foundation including Covid-19 emergency grant	50,000	55,000
The National Lottery Community Fund - Coronavirus Community Support Fund	-	95,253
Trust for London	22,500	-
University of Birmingham (Eurochildren)	-	1,451
Income from charitable activities	151,934	434,805

5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £
Other income	52,681	26,485

6 Charitable activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Staff costs	198,591	195,522
Depreciation and impairment	4,138	3,471
Charitable expenditure heading 1	76,951	82,091
	279,680	281,084
Share of support costs (see note 7)	18,151	35,535
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	2,478	2,012
	300,309	318,631
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	509	2,383
Restricted funds	299,800	316,248
	300,309	318,631

7 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Support cost	18,151	-	18,151	35,535
Accountancy	-	1,944	1,944	2,012
Governance costs	-	534	534	-
	18,151	2,478	20,629	37,547
Analysed between				
Charitable activities	18,151	2,478	20,629	37,547

Accountancy / Governance costs is payments to the independent examination of £1,440 (2021: £1,440).

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Migrant Voice during the year.

During the year Trustees received reimbursement of expenses amounting to £534 (2021 - 0).

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Full time employees	3	3
Part time employees	6	5
Total	9	8

Employment costs	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	179,173	180,652
Social security costs	14,721	10,579
Other pension costs	4,697	4,291
	198,591	195,522

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2021	27,860
Additions	6,152
At 31 March 2022	34,012
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2021	23,769
Depreciation charged in the year	4,138
At 31 March 2022	27,907
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2022	6,105
At 31 March 2021	4,092

Restricted funds represent amounts received for specific purposes, which have not yet been fully spent on those purposes at the year-end. Barrow Cadbury Trust £379, Barrow Cadbury Trust/The National Lottery Community Fund COVID-19 Support Fund £777, The National Lottery Community Fund - Coronavirus Community Support Fund £937, Esmee Fairbain £854 and ERDF - UIA - MiFriendly Cities £3,158 relates to the net book value of fixed assets which would be written down to nil in subsequent years.

11 Debtors

	2022	2021
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	-	93

12 Movement in funds

Funders	Balance at 1 April 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
Barrow Cadbury Trust	9,878	30,000	26,920	12,958
Barrow Cadbury Trust/The National Lottery Community Fund COVID-19 Support Fund	37,586	100	36,910	776
The National Lottery Community Fund - Coronavirus Community Support Fund	23,106	-	22,144	962
ERDF - UIA - MiFriendly Cities	(30,125)	-	2,579	(32,704)
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	41,346	-	39,743	1,603
Esmee Fairbairn Covid-19 fast response grant	64,590	-	20,112	44,478
Hardship fund	15	500	360	155
Impact Funding Partners (formerly Voluntary Action Fund)	197	-	101	96
London Community Support Fund - Trust for London	-	48,834	48,834	-
London Churches Refugee Hardship Fund	525	-	100	425
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	32,544	50,000	37,985	44,559
Paul Hamlyn Foundation-Covid-19 emergency grant	20,000	-	20,000	-
Trust for London	(1,506)	22,500	44,012	(23,018)
	198,156	151,934	299,800	50,290

Our income from the The National Lottery Community Fund - Coronavirus Community Support Fund, includes £44,228 that we as the lead partner will transfer to our partner organisations for the Resilience project, to be spent in accordance with the grant agreement. In this financial year, £4,422.81 of this amount was transferred to partners.

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	(214)	-
Accruals and deferred income	1,440	4,483
	1,226	4,483

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2022	Restricted funds 2022	Total 2022	Unrestricted funds 2021	Restricted funds 2021	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	-	6,105	6,105	-	4,092	4,092
Current assets/(liabilities)	115,177	44,185	159,362	60,733	194,064	254,797
	115,177	50,290	165,467	60,733	198,156	258,889

15 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year.

MIGRANT VOICE

England & Wales - Charity number 1142963

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1142963 (England and Wales)
Charity Registration No. SC050970 (Scotland)

Company Registration No. 07154151 (England and Wales)

MIGRANT VOICE

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

MIGRANT VOICE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)	
	Mr Jason Bergen	
	Mr Maurice Wren	
	Ms Sofi Taylor (Vice Chair)	
	Prof Ferdinando Sigona	
	Mr Wilfred Sullivan	(Appointed 1 December 2020)
	Ms Dorrie Chetty	(Appointed 1 December 2020)
	Ms Niketha Gamage-Watson	(Appointed 1 December 2020)
Secretary	Mrs Nazek Ramadan Moussa	
Charity number	1142963 (England and Wales)	
Charity number (Scotland)	SC050970	
Company number	07154151	
Registered office	VAI, 200a Pentonville Road London United Kingdom N1 9JP	
Independent examiner	Reddy Siddiqui LLP 183-189 The Vale Acton London W3 7RW	

MIGRANT VOICE

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 15
Independent examiner's report	16
Statement of financial activities	17
Balance sheet	18
Notes to the financial statements	19 - 27

MIGRANT VOICE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with Migrant Voice's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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 2019)".

Objectives and activities

1. To advance education amongst migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, by the provision of training, advice and support, especially around media work; and
2. To advance the education of the public in general and the media about the issues relating to migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.
3. To promote equality and diversity by the provision of activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds and to cultivate a sentiment in favour of equality and diversity

We are a migrant-led national organisation which builds a community of migrant voices to speak for ourselves and call for justice for all. We work with all types of migrants, including refugees and asylum-seekers, across the UK.

We strive to create a society where migrants have full equality and achieve positive change for migrants – countering racism and xenophobia, discrimination and unjust policies, bringing communities together and bringing social justice - change which benefits the whole of UK society.

To achieve this, migrants need to build collective power and influence, ensure our rights are protected and have a seat at the decision-making table to set the agenda on migration.

Our mutually interconnected methodologies, guided by our Theory of Change, are:

We build a bigger, stronger and deeper community of migrant voices across the UK via our Migrant Voices for Change Network, made up of regional hubs;

We strengthen migrants' ability to influence and shape the media and public debate through training, brokering stories to the media and working with journalists and editors;

We develop and conduct migrant-led campaigns and advocacy to change law and policy and individual outcomes, that are accountable to participating migrants;

We facilitate and act as an anchor for migrant-led initiatives of a wider migration justice movement in alliance with other movements, by convening, collaboration, capacity-building and representation.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities Migrant Voice (MV) should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit

Our Theory of Change (TOC) guides all of our work. In accordance with that, Migrant Voice has planned and run a series of successful projects and activities in this period in order to achieve our objectives.

Core organisational activities

Grants from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation for core costs and a contribution from the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation have ensured our success in providing a platform for migrants to engage with the media and with policymakers and to contribute to the public debate on migration. By putting migrant voices at the centre of these conversations, we aim to develop greater understanding and support for migrants' rights, and pursue policy change to achieve those rights.

Both funders contributed extraordinarily to our core work in this year through the making of generous additional grants to help with our core activities during the Covid-19 pandemic. We also received a Covid-19 support grant from Barrow Cadbury Trust/The National Lottery Community Fund COVID-19 Support Fund. This was invaluable at a time when some other funders stopped accepting new applications and made a huge different to our operation in this and the following financial year.

The core funding has helped provide stability for the organisation, enabling us to strengthen the organisational, financial and administrative systems, as well as further develop our strategic communications. It has also ensured the continuity of the work, for example, by enabling us to continue to pay core staff and to successfully apply for new funding.

The core funding has contributed to the continued running and development of the organisation and therefore to the work of our UK Migrant Voices for Change Network in the three regions (London, West Midlands and Glasgow).

As a result of this core funding, our Director has continued to build stronger alliances and partnerships while also engaging with media, academics, policymakers, unions, and other civil society organisations.

In this year we have had a change of Communications staff, recruited a Campaign Organiser and temporarily welcomed three other part time staff, two of them to work on the new 'Resilience project' partnership and one to help with Administration. We have also had to say goodbye to two other part time staff members at the end of February/March in the West Midlands and Glasgow.

During this period, we worked to receive charitable status in Scotland, too, which was granted in May 2021, adding another charitable objective to our constitution.

We undertook a re-development and re-design of our website which was relaunched in January 2021.

With the UK entering lockdown in March 2020, our staff moved to working from home and continued to do so throughout the year. We created new risk assessments and policies to enable this new way of working. Our activities have been delivered successfully online in all three regions with some modifications. The impact of the pandemic on migrants' lives was the focus of many meetings and something our members spoke out about during the year. Until the middle of June we produced a weekly newsletter with resources for support and information at this time of COvid-19 and a list of tips for activities to undertake.

We also organised Cup'a'Tea online social gatherings, initially weekly during the first lockdown, later on the last Friday of every month. The gatherings provided a place for our members to catch-up and share their thoughts and feelings throughout Covid-19 and to feel connected and less isolated.

Partnership working

We worked with other organisations and groups on several specific issues in line with our Strategic Plan and to address emerging topics and opportunities. This partnership work is a valuable part of our work, sharing knowledge and expertise, organising joint events and collaborating on joint letters and policy asks.

Our partnership activities include many other collaborations within and beyond the migration sector, which are too numerous to mention here. Some of our work with other organisations this year included the following:

- We've held meetings with numerous community and migration sector organisations to explore collaboration and/or cross referral, including Cotton Tree Trust, Hackney Refugee and Migrant Forum and Stepstone4 (London), Maryhill Integration Network (Glasgow), RUDA (a Romanian organisation), and Stop Asian Hate, (Birmingham) and we continued to work with many others.
- Migrant Voice continues to sit on the ITV diversity panels in London and the West Midlands to influence best practice in diversity in the media and to seek to influence news coverage of migration and related topics.
- During this period, we continued to develop our relationships with several unions as well as the Trades Union Congress (TUC). We spoke at the migrant members conference of the University and Colleges Union (UCU).
- As part of our My Future Back campaign, we continued to strengthen our relationships with several legal firms, including Bindmans, 12 Old Square, Imperium Chambers, Moorehouse Solicitors, and Garden Court Chambers, who have also worked on dozens of cases relating to the international students' injustice.
- We fed into the London Immigration Advice Mapping project, researching immigration advice in the capital.
- We further strengthened our relationship with policy makers, including meeting and engaging with cross party MPs and members of the House of Lords.
- We continued to work with Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum in Glasgow, to develop a project around the planned exhibition of images from our 'Engaging Pictures' and 'Changing Lenses' Glasgow projects – though this has been delayed by Covid-19.
- We worked with universities, including with Glasgow, Westminster and Coventry Universities around a framework for the evaluation of our Meet the Editors activity; with SOAS in London around internships for their students and we spoke at one of their events about the impact of Covid on migrants. We participated in a Sheffield University documentary on freedom of the press. We delivered a session for students at Westminster University about our work; and we took part in two consultation workshops to influence the research questionnaire for a project at the University of Birmingham on ethnicity, pollution and health.
- We continued to work with City Councils through our MiFriendly Cities partnership, and we met with the migration team of the Coventry City Council to tell them about our work overall and some of the key concerns of our members. Together with members we delivered a workshop on the importance of hearing migrants' voices at a City of Wolverhampton Council organised stakeholder event.
- We worked extensively with Amnesty International UK on joint submissions and briefings. We also spoke at a meeting of Amnesty supporters to share with them the significance of the proposed New Borders Bill and the importance of making your voice heard on the issue, and to an Amnesty International UK students' network on the impact of Covid on migrant communities.
- We collaborated with the RAAH (Refuges, Asylum seekers and Human Rights) festival. The online festival aimed to raise awareness about issues affecting refugees, asylum seekers and trafficked people and to raise funds for up to 20 NGOs, including MV. We produced a short video for the festival raising awareness of the plight of Eritrean refugees in Libya.

- We took part in events, amplifying our members' experiences: We Presented our Feel at Home project and videos at the Unesco Rila global event at Glasgow University; presented the findings of our small hate crime survey at a Hear (Human Rights and Equalities) meeting and took part in a Human rights and Covid-19 event organised by the same network. We also took part in the Funders for Race Equality Alliance's focus group gathering information about the state of the current race equity sector in England.
- Our Director presented on the top priorities for the government to see Human Rights realised for those not born in Scotland at and event organised by Human Rights Consortium Scotland. Our trustee Sofi Taylor sits on the steering group for the Consortium representing MV and has helped ensure migrants are consulted on the development of the new human rights act in Scotland.
- We are represented on the board of European Anti-Poverty Network - England (EAPN) where we seek to ensure that migrant voices are included and heard in anti-poverty campaigns.
- We continue to be a member of the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM).
- We are members of the migrant and refugee led, European Rise network (Refugees' Ideas and Solutions for Europe), and worked with them to raise awareness of Eritreans in Libya, the situation in Calais and the Moria Camp in Lesvos.
- We took part in the MiFriendly cities sounding board with organisations from across Europe to talk about good practice around integration of migrants.
- We worked with the UN Human Rights Office to share our experience to feed into their toolkit 'the OHCHR Seven Key Elements on Building Human Rights-Based Narratives on Migrants and Migration'. The toolkit was released in December to mark International Migrants Day.

UK Migrant Voices for Change Network

The UK Migrant Voices for Change Network (UKMVC) is the foundation for all our work across our three regions and hubs. Our network's membership base is made up of migrants from a diverse range of communities, alongside UK citizens, journalists, academics, and colleagues from the migration justice sector.

Through the UKMVC hubs we engage in activities to ensure migrants have the skills, confidence, tools and platforms to speak out in the media, campaign or advocate for migrants' rights. The aim is always to create positive change for migrants, bringing about social justice and campaigning against discrimination, xenophobia, racism and unjust policies. These changes benefit everybody in society.

Network meetings and training are key to the UKMVC, as they create the spaces for members to come together to discuss issues affecting them, alongside building strategies to address them and speak out.

In this period, we continued to hold network meetings in our three region hubs, all online, and some national, bringing together our members across the country. Topics included:

- A meeting in the West Midlands was jointly organised with the Polish Expats Association and RUDA (a Romanian community group), to discuss the concerns of EU nationals in the lead-up to the end of the Brexit transition period. Labour MP Jess Phillips was a guest speaker. In Glasgow a meeting discussed the concerns of different migrant groups (including asylum seekers, international students and EU nationals) in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- We also held a meeting on extortionate visa fees, which was joined by Jon Spellar MP; one with a guest immigration Barrister providing information for those concerned about how immigration status was affected during the Covid-19 pandemic; and a meeting on the impact of Covid-19 on migrant and BAME communities to feed into a parliamentary inquiry.
- We organised and hosted a meeting for international students (non-TOEIC) who have been impacted by Covid-19 to share their concerns and experiences and exchange information.

In July, we held Migrant Voice's first International Students Week, celebrating the international students who come to the UK and raising their voices and the issues affecting them. Through several blogs, articles and social media posts, students wrote about struggles during the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown including over visas and finances.

Our training in speaking out in the media, to policy makers and the public, campaigning and advocacy form other essential activities of the UKMVC network, which are described later in this report.

The Barrow Cadbury Trust has funded the UKMVC hub in Birmingham. Funding from Impact Funding Partners in Scotland for the Volunteering for Change project has supported the Glasgow hub activities. Most of our other funding also supports work of the network.

Media training and work

Through the Migrant Media Lab, our signature training activity, we continue to deliver media training and mentoring sessions for our members throughout the year. The sessions are led by experts among our own staff and by volunteers, guest journalists/editors, and other media experts, with the goal of achieving a fundamental objective: to train and empower migrants to speak for themselves and to engage effectively with the media.

In this period, we ran Media Labs in Glasgow and the West Midlands. The Media Lab sessions gave migrants the skills to progress the action points agreed at national meetings.

We also delivered training for migrant groups, including a social media training for the # StatusNow4all Network; a training for young people from Safe Passage and two training sessions for a group of undocumented migrants on speaking to the media.

As a result of our training, members have engaged in interviews with journalists and attended public meetings and events where they spoke out about their experiences.

We continued implementing our proactive media strategy, pitching stories to the media, while also reacting to requests where we considered this productive.

Members were heard in a number of national, independent and regional news outlets. These included The i, ITV Central, BBC Midlands, The Birmingham Mail, The Guardian, Channel4 news, Sky News, The Independent, the Eastern Eye, Huck Magazine, gal-dem Magazine, MyLondon, Morning Star, Huffington Post and many others.

Topics included: the NHS surcharge; the TOEIC scandal; crossing the Channel; having No Recourse to Public Funds; the impact of extortionate visa fees; racism against Asian communities in the capital; seeking asylum in the UK and struggling as an asylum seekers on the Home Office's financial allowance; about having to travel long distances on public transport to Home Office appointments during the Covid-19 pandemic and on our West midlands Media Lab and newsroom and the importance of hearing migrants' voices.

Our members also contributed to a large number of stories published on our website in this period.

Campaigning, advocacy and policy influencing work

Drawing on core funding, we have continued and expanded our work to bring migrants' voices and issues directly to policymakers with the goal of influencing policy changes. For the specific work of the My Future Back campaign we also had a grant from the ARM Trust, and for the visa fees campaign in London, we had a grant from Trust for London.

Our campaigning and advocacy work in this period was focused on these main areas:

The rights of EU nationals

While we continue to sit on the Home Office user group advising on the development and implementation of the EU Settlement Scheme, our work in this period has focused on meetings for migrants to share concerns and get information, and on amplifying the experiences of our members and those of others in the sector providing front-line legal advice.

- We held a network meeting in Birmingham, jointly organised with the Polish Expats Association and RUDA (a Romanian community group), to discuss the concerns of EU nationals in the lead-up to the end of the Brexit transition period. Labour MP Jess Phillips was also a guest speaker.
- In Glasgow, we organised a Know Your Rights session for anyone concerned about the rights and situation of EU nationals now that the UK has officially left the EU.
- We worked with JCWI and Public Law Project, who used case studies from our 'Unsettled' report to support the arguments of their EU Settlement Scheme legal case.
- We are partners with the University of Birmingham, the3million, and British in Europe a new project, 'Rebordering Britain & Britons after Brexit.' The research project will explore the long-term impacts of Brexit on migration between the EU and UK to uncover what this reveals about Britain's migration story and future.
- We participated in meetings of the EU citizens' rights monitoring network, run by the EU Commission in the UK, alongside the EU27 embassies and sector organisations.

My Future Back Campaign

Our work on this issue built on the earlier successes of the campaign and although some work was on hold due to the pandemic, we continue to progress the campaign in several areas:

- We started to see an increasing number of the students winning their cases as a result of the campaign and successfully using the report from the APPG on TOEIC in court to clear their names. At the same time, too many students are still in limbo and fighting for justice.
- We continued to raise awareness at the political level, issuing a briefing, and working closely with supportive MPs and reaching out to other parliamentarians including the Home Affairs Select committee to encourage an investigation into the issue.
- A letter signed by over 200 of the students was delivered to the Prime Minister in September with a small a small Covid-secure accompanying demonstration at Westminster. We were able to get widespread media coverage (in over 100 local, national and international media) of the letter, which called for a transparent free scheme to be established independent of the Home Office, and for guidance to be issued to all higher education institutions on how to treat TOEIC students. Our letter received a response from the Minister for Future Borders and immigration, Kevin Foster MP, that confirmed that the Home Office now intends to grant 2.5 years leave to students who win their cases and that the issue was still being monitored by the Home Office. Many who won had before received only limited leave to remain shorter than the standard 2.5 years; some granted as little as 60 days leave, which is not enough to find a sponsoring college or work to allow them to remain in the UK. We believed that this was unreasonable and that students should be grant 2.5 years leave to remain automatically when they win their cases.)
- We contacted the Home Secretary and the Shadow Home Secretary to again raise the issue of TOEIC and offer to speak in more detail about what justice looks like for the students.
- We met with Stephen Timms MP and David Bolt, the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration at the time, to discuss the possibility of the Inspector conducting an inquiry into the Home Office's handling of the TOEIC issue. David Bolt showed interest in this, but did not confirm his next steps before he stood down in this role

- We supported three students to write about their lives and the campaign for a book on the hostile environment as another way of reaching a wider audience and telling the stories of some of our members who have been affected by this issue.
- We developed a survey for those affected by the TOEIC allegation together with the legal firm Bindmans, to collect students' experiences of appealing through the courts in order to build a picture about where proceedings stand currently. It received over 130 responses which were analysed and pulled together in a report.
- The information from the survey has helped Bindmans to consider ways of strengthening collective case law around TOEIC. We collaborated with the law firm to set up the 'TOEIC Justice project' which will support students to make a joint compensation claim through Bindmans and also refer more students to MV's campaign. The launch took place in July 2021.
- We continued to support the students so they are better informed about the legal processes and opportunities by hosting an advice session with a leading barrister working on TOEIC cases.
- We have taken the step to intervene in a TOEIC case (RK & DK vs SSHD) as the Home Office aimed to use the case to have the 2019 APPG report ruled legally inadmissible to stop it being used in this case and in future cases. A legal mechanism allows experts in certain topics to intervene in a case to act as expert witnesses as an independent legal entity.
  We have worked closely with a pro bono solicitor and a barrister from two legal firms to assemble and submit evidence. We were granted our application to intervene and managed to argue that if the APPG report is not legally sound, then the transcript and voice recordings should be admissible. We have worked closely with Stephen Timms MP on this. While the court ruling has yet to be made, it looks like the transcript from the APPG will continue to be admissible in court so the students can continue to use it to help win their cases.

The work on the MyFutureBack campaign was funded by a grant from the Arm Trust and from our core funds.

The campaign against extortionate visa fees

- Throughout the year we continued to speak to migrants and gather information about their experiences and the impact of extortionate visa fees on their lives, including how this has been exacerbated due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Several of our members spoke out about working as a carer or nurse during Covid-19 and the difficulties of paying fees – and applying for a new visa during lockdown with less access to legal advice, and long waits to have the visa processed.
- We issued a briefing to MPs in May on the impact of the NHS surcharge & visa fees on migrants in the UK.
- Our members' voices contributed significantly to the national efforts of many organisations to lobby the government to drop the NHS surcharge for health and care workers. For example, a member spoke in a story for Channel4 news, which led the news that evening, and another in a front-page story in the Guardian, which later that day contributed to the government U-turn on abolishing the NHS Surcharge for these workers. Other members were interviewed for stories in the Independent, and the Evening Standard, among others.
- We successfully used the national political and media debate around the NHS surcharge to raise the broader issue of visa fees, both through a number of media stories and in a briefing sent to dozens of policymakers, further supporting our campaign on this issue.

We continued our fundraising for this work and successfully got a grant from Trust for London, enabling us to officially launch the campaign in London in March 2021 and recruit a new Campaign Organiser to step up our work on this. Our campaign is national and we continue our efforts to raise funds for the work nationally.

Our work with undocumented migrants

We have always worked with undocumented migrants to get their stories into the media and raise awareness about their realities. We run training and activities to ensure they are heard and part of the conversation about their future in the UK.

- We are an active member of the StatusNow4All network, calling for regularisation for all undocumented migrants currently in the UK. (The network comprises over 130 organisations from NGOs, unions, local authorities and others). We have joined the steering group for the Statusnow4all network and chaired the official launch of this network in July.
- MV and other London members of the StatusNow4All network met with the advisor to the Mayor of London to raise issues affecting undocumented migrants. This meeting led to ongoing conversation and relationship with the GLA on this.
- We delivered media training for a group of undocumented migrants to speak out about the key issues affecting their lives.
- We continue to be an active member of the global network PICUM (Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants), sharing the experiences of our members and contributing to the work for the rights of individuals with no documented status.

Individual campaigns

In the West Midlands we support and build the skills of individual members to advocate and campaign for their rights. These ‘individual’ campaigns address wider systemic issues through our campaign model, turning individual stories into communities’ collective demands for change.

We use the learning from our national campaign models and the same elements of combining media coverage with targeted lobbying of policy makers and bringing in help from legal experts, but bring it to the hyper-local level.

In this period, we have been working with three members on their individual campaigns, while others we’ve worked with before continue to be involved as role models, sharing their learning and experiences and inspiring others to do the same to achieve justice.

Other policy influencing work

Our work bringing the voices and experiences of migrants to policymakers has also encompassed the following areas.

- We support dozens of migrants to speak to their MPs each year, supporting with the skills to write letters and engage with their MPs, and the most effective ways of getting across the issue they want to raise.
- We continued to contribute to meetings of the Home Office user group on the post-Brexit immigration system alongside colleagues in the sector, raising issues of concern from the experiences of our members and from our work.
- We organised a survey and focus group to seek our members views on the proposed Migrants’ Commissioner role and fed this and our views to a Home Office consultation and to the Institute for Government’s roundtable consultation on the matter.
- We made several submissions to parliamentary inquiries and committees based on the experiences of our members around the impact of Covid-19 on BAME & migrant communities. This included a Submission to the Women and Equalities Committee inquiry: Unequal impact? Coronavirus and BAME people and to the Scottish Parliament's Equalities and Human Rights Commission Inquiry on the impact of Covid-19. We also sent a briefing to MPs on the impact of Covid-19 on international students.
- We made joint submissions with Amnesty Intl. UK also around the impact of Covid-19; to the Home Affairs Committee concerning the Home Office’s preparedness for Covid-19; and to the Joint Committee of Human Rights inquiry: The Government response to Covid-19: human rights implications.

- We also collaborated with Amnesty International UK on submissions to the Joint Committee on Human Rights regarding the Government's Independent Human Rights Act Review; and a joint briefing on the Immigration Bill for House of Lords Second Reading.
- For our Visa fees campaigning, we issued a briefing to MPs on the impact of the NHS surcharge & visa fees on migrants in the UK, and for the My Future Back campaign, we issued a briefing to MPs in June.
- In response to some of our briefings, we had meetings with cross party MPs including: Andrew Mitchel, Jonathan Lord and Jess Phillips to discuss support for some of our work and raise issues affecting our members.
- We have worked with Home Affairs Select Committee on their Channel Crossing inquiry, and supported three individuals to give extensive evidence, enabling parliamentarians to hear directly from individuals who made the crossing.
- We have written and submitted letters to the UK Government, the EU parliament and Commission and to the United Nations office in London as well as to IOM, Doctors without Borders, Red Cross, and UNICEF regarding the plight of Eritrean refugees in Libya, including those in detention centres.
- In the first lockdown we wrote to the Home Secretary and the Immigration Minister calling for Leave to Remain to be automatically extended for all migrants and for them to stop issuing refusals.
- We supported more than 20 joint calls with partner organisations in response to Covid-19: including calling for an immediate suspension of the hostile environment led by JCWI, Medact, Liberty; calling on the government to increase support for destitute migrants led by NACCOM; calling for asylum support to be increased, led by Freedom from Torture.

The Building Resilience Project

In partnership with RAPAR (Refugee and Asylum Participatory Action Research) and Kanlungan Filipino Consortium, we launched the Building Resilience project in December. This project, led by Migrant Voice, aimed to organise, empower and build networks with some of the migrant communities most marginalised by Covid-19.

The project provided spaces for migrants with limited and no immigration status to discuss shared experiences throughout the Covid-19 pandemic to build their resilience and form networks of solidarity.

The Building Resilience project strengthened leadership skills among Community Leaders and ran training session on engaging with your MP attended by 100 people, many of whom wrote to their MPs as a result.

We organised a meeting with Stephen Timms MP and 40 migrants who spoke about their experiences and the impact of Covid.

We ran media training sessions on preparing your message on impact of Covid of migrants with limited immigration status culminating in the production of a number of videos.

Based on a survey with 200 migrants and a number of in-depth interviews, a report shared the learning and findings from the project: '*Releasing resilience and building networks of resilience: learning from the survey, interviews, and evaluation.'* We secured good media coverage for the report including by Sky News, The i Paper, the Birmingham Mail, and PinkNews.

The project was funded by The National Lottery Community Fund - Coronavirus Community Support Fund.

The MiFriendly Cities project

This year saw the conclusion of many of our activities as one of the partners of this three-year project, which began in early 2018. Over the years we have brought our expertise in supporting migrants with training to tell their stories, which has contributed to the project's aims to ensure migrants and refugees are fully part of the West Midlands and their voices, skills and passion contribute to strengthening the social and economic fabric of the region for the benefit of all.

In this period, our six Media Lab sessions were delivered online, which meant some training had to be adapted, but also that we could bring participants across Coventry, Birmingham and Wolverhampton to take part together.

Throughout the year, we continued our weekly 'newsroom' sessions, following up and supporting participants from the Media Labs to produce specific media content in mainstream media and for Migrant Voice and MiFriendly Cities social media platforms.

The highlight was the Newsroom's work to produce their own magazine 'Beyond' to mark Black History Month 2020.

Elsewhere, our director took part in the MiFriendly cities sounding board with organisations from across Europe to talk about good practice around integration of migrants.

This project is a partnership with ten others: Coventry City Council (lead), City of Wolverhampton Council, Birmingham City Council, Central England Law Centre, Coventry University, Refugee and Migrant Centre, Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre, Coventry University Social Enterprise, Interserve, and MigrationWork.

MiFriendly Cities is funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and forms part of the EU's Urban Innovative Actions (UIA) initiative.

The Volunteering for Change project

We continued our work on this project in Glasgow, and concluded it at the end of March 2021. The project recruited, trained and supported volunteers to work across key roles in our organisation in order to develop their transferable skills and strengthen our capacity to support migrants, amplify their voices, and bring communities together.

In this period, we recruited and inducted two new groups of volunteers, who supported the delivery of a number of activities including Media Lab, research, meetings and know your rights sessions.

Volunteers have told us that the project helped to increase their skills and confidence through taking part in a wide range of training opportunities, improved their mental health and wellbeing, helped them meet new people and improve their career prospects. For some, the skills and confidence they gained from volunteering encouraged them to go back to College and University. A number of them found jobs using their experience with us. For the volunteers who were migrants, they told us that volunteering helped partially replace the links and ties they lost in the act of migration, creating a new sense of belonging.

This project was funded by Impact Funding Partners.

The Meet a Migrant project

This period saw the successful continuation of this pioneering project, which transfers the knowledge from phase 1 of Meet a Migrant through tailored sessions for migrant community groups and individuals active in their communities, based on our toolkit, ‘Making headlines’. We also worked to address structural inequalities that exclude migrants’ voices from the media and from influencing policy.

We delivered training to 18 community groups and individuals (or ‘Migrant Ambassadors’) in Glasgow, Birmingham and London and continued to work with the Ambassadors we had already trained through ongoing mentoring with pitches, and developing their stories. Taking advantage of the benefits of working online, we were able to bring together the Ambassadors from across the country to share experiences, exchange learning and further their skills.

During this time, we prepared for and organised a Meet the Editors meeting with the Press Association, where members had the opportunity to provide feedback directly to editors on the news outlet’s media coverage and pitch untold stories from their communities.

We also continued to build relationships with numerous journalists from other outlets across the country. We successfully pitched and had tens of stories published, with dozens of members speaking out.

We continued working with the Universities of Glasgow, Coventry and Westminster, to analyse the impact of our Meet the Editors sessions and to share knowledge and expertise and plan further joint work.

The project also produced briefings for policymakers on issues raised by our members. In this period, topics included visa fees and the impact of Covid-19 on migrants.

This project and the broader work of the Communications Officer is funded by the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation. The communications capacity enabled by this grant continues to be instrumental, increasing our output of media stories and website content, and improving our visibility, impact, and social media presence and our members’ media influencing.

Research

In this period, we have undertaken a media monitoring research project, assessing media coverage of migration during the first peak of the pandemic in the UK. We launched our report ‘Heroes, threats & victims; UK media coverage of migration during the first covid-19 lockdown’ in December 2020, at an online event chaired by our trustee, Professor Nando Sigona.

We analysed almost 900 news stories across nine of the UK’s most popular media outlets and found that migrants were heard more often in the media in this period at 21%. There were big differences between news outlets, however, with 33.5% of stories in The Guardian including a migrant voice and just 3.9% in the Express.

However, migrants were mainly presented in stereotyped categories of ‘disadvantaged’, ‘heroes’, ‘threats or ‘victims’, and across different outlets, these depictions entrenched existing perceptions and impacted on the level of public and policy support for different groups of migrants at this time.

Despite this, our research also showed that as a result of this pandemic, journalists, policymakers and the public know much more about issues such as asylum support and immigration detention, and we hope this can form the groundwork for more significant policy changes in the future.

Our core funding from The Paul Hamlyn Foundation and The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation supported the work on this report.

Volunteering and in-kind support

All Migrant Voice activities are supported by a large number of volunteers (including journalists) giving their time and skills to support the work.

In addition, Migrant Voice receives a significant amount of in-kind support in the form of venues, expert trainers, legal advice for our members and to support our campaigns, editors, etc.

The ongoing maintenance, hosting and the re-development of our website in this period was done through in-kind donation to a value of £8,000.

Financial review

The Charity's income was £474,230 in the year ended 31 March 2021 compared to £262,163 in the year ended 31 March 2020. The total expenditure amounted to £318,631 the year to 31 March 2021 compared to £268,828 in the year ended 31 March 2020.The fund balance carried forward at 31 March 2021 was £60,733 on general unrestricted funds. The fund balance carried forward on restricted funds was £198,156 on 31 March 2021. The full Statement of Financial Activities is set out on page 15 of these accounts:

The financial outlook for 2021-22 is positive.

Reserves Policy

The Board of trustees aims to develop and maintain a level of unrestricted reserves which ensures that there are adequate funds to meet current and known future liabilities.

A formal policy on reserves was agreed at the 4 December 2012 meeting of the executive committee and last updated 18 November 2019. It states:

The trustees have set a reserves policy which works towards achieving that:

Reserves be maintained at a level which ensures that Migrant Voice's core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty. A proportion of reserves be maintained in a readily realisable form.

Most of MV's funding is restricted in some way and any restricted funds will be treated as restricted. MV will build its reserve from the unrestricted funding and through prudent savings. The organisation will build its reserves to reach the target by increased fundraising, increased earned income through e.g. training or presentation delivery, through donations, and through reducing expenditure.

We will aim to allocate an amount of £250 per month for the reserve (£3000 per year). This must come from unrestricted funds.

MV aims to have reserves equivalent to a minimum of 3 months running costs. At the moment our reserves are £60,733.

Investment policy and performance

The Memorandum & Articles of Association provides that the organisation invests moneys not immediately required for its own purposes in or upon such investments securities or properties as may- be thought fit. At the present time the trustees' policy is to maintain all such monies on deposits earning a market rate of interest.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which Migrant Voice is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Future plans for financial year 2021-22

- We will undertake a strategic review as an organisation, which will include a new theory of change, a new strategy for 2022-2027, a fundraising strategy, and communications strategy to bring more clarity and coherence to our organisational methodology, give a clearer framework for how we work and how we articulate and communicate this to build greater support.
- We will use the rest of 2021-22 to start embedding the new Theory of Change and seeking resources for the implementation of the strategy 2022-2027.
- We will also continue to check in with members about the ongoing impact of Covid-19 and the way immigration status exacerbates the impact of the pandemic. This will be complemented by a series of roundtable events with our members planned in 2022, exploring the place of migrants, migration and human mobility in the context of # BuildBackBetter narrative.
- We will continue our work to bring migrant voices into the public arena, be it in the media, or other policy or public platforms regionally, nationally and in Europe. We will work to build migrants' collective power and influence, ensuring our rights are protected and migrants have a seat at the decision-making table to set the agenda on migration.
- We will work to further strengthen our network hubs as the foundation for all our work and seek further resources to increase our capacity.
- We will work to strengthen existing collaborations and build new working relationships with partners and key stakeholders, to build solidarity and increase our impact.
- We will continue our advocacy and campaigning, transforming individual migrant voices into collective demands, directly engaging parliamentarians, policy makers and other targets while leveraging our expertise in the use of media stories to call for change.
- In line with our strategic priorities, we will continue to work on the following areas: Lack of regular status for undocumented migrants including our MyFutureBack Campaign; lack of certainty and rights protection for EU migrants during and after Brexit; Development of post-Brexit immigration policies including the impact of Nationality and Border Bill; Rising cost of migration to the UK.
- We will continue and further strengthen our convening role in strategic partnership work with a purpose of bringing groups together, centring migrant voices through collaboration and normalising a migrant-led approach.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a company limited by guarantee and a charity. It is operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated 11/02/2010 and most recently amended 11/07/2011. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)	
Mr Jason Bergen	
Mr Maurice Wren	
Ms Simin Azimi	(Resigned 11 February 2021)
Ms Sofi Taylor (Vice Chair)	
Ms Joy Warmington	(Resigned 20 November 2020)
Prof Ferdinando Sigona	
Mr Wilfred Sullivan	(Appointed 1 December 2020)
Ms Dorrie Chetty	(Appointed 1 December 2020)
Ms Niketha Gamage-Watson	(Appointed 1 December 2020)

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Overall management of the company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the memorandum and articles of association. Day to day project activity is managed and carried out by paid staff and/or volunteers.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)
Trustee
Dated: 2 December 2021

MIGRANT VOICE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF MIGRANT VOICE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Migrant Voice (the Migrant Voice) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the Migrant Voice (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the Migrant Voice 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 the Migrant Voice's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Migrant Voice's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of 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 that in any material respect:

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

2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3 the financial statements 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 financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.



Reddy Siddiqui LLP

183-189 The Vale
Acton
London
W3 7RW

Dated: 2 December 2021

MIGRANT VOICE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	**3**	12,940	-	12,940	5,903	-	5,903
Charitable activities	**4**	-	434,805	434,805	-	244,245	244,245
Other income	**5**	26,485	-	26,485	12,015	-	12,015
Total income		39,425	434,805	474,230	17,918	244,245	262,163
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	**6**	2,383	316,248	318,631	20,156	248,672	268,828
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		37,042	118,557	155,599	(2,238)	(4,427)	(6,665)
Fund balances at 1 April 2020		23,691	79,599	103,290	25,929	84,026	109,955
Fund balances at 31 March 2021		60,733	198,156	258,889	23,691	79,599	103,290

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

MIGRANT VOICE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**10**		4,092		6,372
Current assets					
Debtors	**11**	93		158	
Cash at bank and in hand		259,187		98,307	
		259,280		98,465	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**13**	(4,483)		(1,547)	
Net current assets			254,797		96,918
Total assets less current liabilities			258,889		103,290
Income funds					
Restricted funds			198,156		79,599
Unrestricted funds			60,733		23,691
			258,889		103,290

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 2 December 2021

Mr Mohammad Habib Rahman (Chair)
Trustee

Company Registration No. 07154151

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Migrant Voice is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is VAI, 200a Pentonville Road, London, N1 9JP, United Kingdom.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Migrant Voice's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and “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)” (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The Migrant Voice is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Migrant Voice has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Migrant Voice. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Migrant Voice has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Migrant Voice.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when Migrant Voice is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once Migrant Voice has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Migrant Voice has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is an obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses. The charity has a minimum value for all assets costing more than £350 capitalised.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures, fittings & equipment	25% on straight line basis

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Migrant Voice reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

1.9 Employee benefits

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Migrant Voice is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Migrant Voice's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Donations and gifts	12,940	5,903

4 Charitable activities

	Direct costs 2021 £	Direct costs 2020 £
ARM Trust	-	10,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust	26,300	21,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust/The National Lottery Community Fund COVID-19 Support Fund	48,500	-
ERDF - UIA - MiFriendly Cities	49,941	79,703
Esmee Fairbairn Covid-19 fast response grant	84,252	-
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	60,504	60,504
Esmeee Fairbairn Grants Plus	-	6,000
Impact Funding Partners (formerly Voluntary Action Fund)	9,992	9,992
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	7,500
London Churches Refugee Hardship Fund	-	700
Moneygram	3,612	10,846
Paul Hamlyn Foundation including Covid-19 emergency grant	55,000	35,000
The National Lottery Community Fund - Coronavirus Community Support Fund	95,253	-
University of Birmingham (Eurochildren)	1,451	3,000
Income from charitable activities	434,805	244,245

5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £
Other income	26,485	12,015

6 Charitable activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs	195,522	188,284
Depreciation and impairment	3,471	3,494
Charitable expenditure heading 1	82,091	34,100
	281,084	225,878
Share of support costs (see note 7)	35,535	32,237
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	2,012	10,713
	318,631	268,828
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	2,383	20,156
Restricted funds	316,248	248,672
	318,631	268,828

7 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Support cost	35,535	-	35,535	32,237
Accountancy	-	2,012	2,012	3,400
Governance costs	-	-	-	7,313
	35,535	2,012	37,547	42,950
Analysed between				
Charitable activities	35,535	2,012	37,547	42,950

Accountancy / Governance costs is payments to the independent examination of £1,440 (2020: £1,200). Incuded in the Wages and salary is payment to the internal book-keeper of £2,514

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Migrant Voice during the year.

There was no reimbursement of expenses paid to trustees during the year (2020 - £1,576).

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Full time employees	3	3
Part time employees	5	5
Total	8	8

Employment costs	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	180,652	173,293
Social security costs	10,579	11,774
Other pension costs	4,291	3,217
	195,522	188,284

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2020	26,670
Additions	1,190
At 31 March 2021	27,860
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2020	20,297
Depreciation charged in the year	3,471
At 31 March 2021	23,768
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2021	4,092
At 31 March 2020	6,372

Restricted funds represent amounts received for specific purposes, which have not yet been fully spent on those purposes at the year-end. Barrow Cadbury Trust £567, UIA - MiFriendly Cities £3,423 and Impact Funding Partners £99 relates to the net book value of fixed assets which would be written down to nil in subsequent years.

11 Debtors

	2021	2020
Amounts falling due within one year:	**£**	**£**
Prepayments and accrued income	93	158

12 Movement in funds

Funders	Balance at 1 April 2020	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
ARM Trust	10,000	-	10,000	-
Barrow Cadbury Trust	10,889	26,300	27,312	9,877
Barrow Cadbury Trust/The National Lottery Community Fund COVID-19 Support Fund	-	48,500	10,914	37,586
Big Lottery Fund - Awards for All (England)	205	-	205	-
Big Lottery Fund - Awards for All (Scotland)	228	-	228	-
Comic Relief	189	-	189	-
ERDF - UIA - MiFriendly Cities	(6,592)	49,941	73,474	(30,125)
Esmee Fairbairn Covid-19 fast response grant	-	84,252	19,663	64,589
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	36,309	60,504	55,467	41,346
Hardship fund	15	-	-	15
Impact Funding Partners (formerly Voluntary Action Fund)	197	9,992	9,992	197
London Churches Refugee Hardship Fund	700	-	175	525
Moneygram	(3,623)	3,612	(11)	-
Paul Hamlyn Foundation including Covid-19 emergency grant	32,533	55,000	34,989	52,544
The National Lottery Community Fund - Coronavirus Community Support Fund	-	95,253	72,148	23,105
Trust for London	-	-	1,506	(1,506)
University of Birmingham (Eurochildren)	(1,451)	1,451	-	-
	79,599	434,805	316,251	198,153

Our income from the The National Lottery Community Fund - Coronavirus Community Support Fund, includes £44,228 that we as the lead partner will transfer to our partner organisations for the Resilience project, to be spent in accordance with the grant agreement. In this financial year, £39,805.20 of this amount was transferred to partners, with the remaining transferred in 2021-22.

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	4,483	1,547

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2021	Restricted funds 2021	Total 2021	Unrestricted funds 2020	Restricted funds 2020	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2021 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	-	4,092	4,092	-	6,372	6,372
Current assets/(liabilities)	60,734	194,063	254,797	23,691	73,227	96,918
	60,734	198,155	258,889	23,691	79,599	103,290

15 Related party transactions

During the year Migrant Voice entered into the following transactions with related parties:

We were subcontracted by the University of Birmingham to deliver partner activities as part of the 'EU families and 'Eurochildren' in Brexiting Britain' project funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). Prof Ferdinando Sigona who led the project and works for the University of Birmingham is a trustee of Migrant Voice.