

Beyond Detention

England & Wales · Charity number 1143160

Details

Other names YARL'S WOOD BEFRIENDERS, Beyond Detention, YWB

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [07652500](#)

Registered 2011-07-29

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address C V S Mid & North Beds
43 Bromham Road
Bedford
MK40 2AA

Phone 01234867219

Email info@beyonddetention.org

Website www.beyonddetention.org

Activities

Objects: The Charity's objects are specifically restricted to the charitable relief of those detained in, and who have left, Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre (YWIRC).

Activities: We visit those held in Yarl's Wood IRC aiming to affirm human dignity and restore self-esteem by listening and offering befriending support.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Bedford
- Central Bedfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£309,297	£304,332	-	-
2024-03-31	£213,209	£311,110	-	-
2023-03-31	£346,910	£267,903	-	-
2022-03-31	£163,365	£189,895	-	-
2021-03-31	£193,733	£134,117	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Catherine Kirk		2021-09-07
KINGA SIMONY		2023-09-14
Kristen Hope Burchill		2021-09-07
Robina Pelham Burn		2019-10-08
Sarah Grahame		2019-10-08
Stella Maureen Shyanguya		2020-11-25
Wozani Chida		2024-03-06

Linked charities

- YARL'S WOOD BEFRIENDERS (1143160-1)

Beyond Detention

England & Wales - Charity number 1143160

Accounts

**BEYOND
DETENTION**



ANNUAL REPORT

2024-25





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ABOUT US



The Trustees, who are also Directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Full Name Beyond Detention

Registered charity number 1143160

Registered company number 07652500

Registered address

43 Bromham Road

Bedford

MK40 2AA

Directors (Trustees)

Wozani Chida, Jivan Dempsey, Sarah Grahame, Eleanor Hitchman, Kristen Hope Burchill, Catherine Kirk (Vice-Chair), Robina Pelham Burn (Chair), Kinga Simony (Treasurer), Stella Shyanguya.

Independent Examiner

Mr SR Mason BSc FCA

Simas Accounting & Tax

Chartered Accountants

Governance and Management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and registered with the Charity Commission. It is operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated 31 May 2011 as amended on 12 November 2021 and on 12 March 2022. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £10.

Trustees are appointed on the basis of their commitment to the aims of the organisation and their willingness to devote both their time and talents to the cause. All Trustees are appointed by a vote at Trustees' meetings and have due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. A governance review took place in 2022-23.

Aims and Objectives

The charity's objects ("Objects") are specifically restricted to the charitable relief of those detained in, or leaving, Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre (YWIRC).



FROM THE CHAIR

This report details the work we undertook in 2024-25 to support people detained in Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre and post-detention, if they were allowed to remain in the UK - which the majority were.

Through practical assistance, emotional support and advocacy, our volunteers, staff and trustees - many with their own experience of immigration detention and forced migration - have shown unwavering commitment to helping people in detention and post-detention to rebuild their lives. The growing number of former clients who have chosen to volunteer with us and serve on our steering group is testimony to the difference the charity makes.

We have also participated in the wider conversation around immigration detention. By collaborating with partner organisations, sharing evidence and amplifying lived experience, we have continued to advocate non-politically for a fairer, more humane system.

My thanks to our volunteers, our staff and my fellow trustees for their compassion and dedication. A heartfelt thank you, too, to our funders, listed in the accounts, who enable us to continue our vital work. At a time when migration is rarely out of the news, our role in standing alongside those affected by immigration detention is more necessary than ever.

Robina Pelham Burn

FROM THE CEO

Twenty-one thousand people entered immigration detention in the year to March 2025, continuing the upward trend we have seen since September 2023. We also saw an increase in the number of people leaving detention to be returned to their country of origin; however, 51 per cent of people were released rather than returned, which begs the question: "Why were those people detained in the first place?"

In July 2024 we saw a change of government, which we hoped would end the hostile environment of the last 12 years, but sadly it did not. Despite positive early signs, such as the scrapping of the Rwanda scheme and the closing of the Bibby Stockholm barge, the new government announced the opening of two more detention facilities, and continued using inflammatory and divisive language to describe people seeking sanctuary in the UK.

The need for our vital work both within Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre, and post-detention in the community, continues unabated. The case studies you will read in this report are evidence of this need. Our small but mighty staff team has been supported by a steadily growing number of incredible volunteers, and our focus now is on upskilling and training this team to provide even better support to those we meet in and post detention.

I am delighted that we have increased the number of our volunteers with lived experience of immigration detention this year. We are also developing a coproduction strategy, with support from the Lloyds Bank Foundation, to ensure our whole team - staff, volunteers and the people we support - drive the future direction of Beyond Detention.

Sadly, the voluntary sector is facing a funding crisis. In 2024 more than 40 grant-makers have closed or paused their programmes in an environment of declining funding and increasing need. We have developed a new Fundraising Strategy to diversify our income and safeguard the future of our organisation, and we are so very grateful to all our funders who continue to believe in us and the work we do.

I was asked recently in an interview where I find hope in this work. The question really made me pause and reflect - where IS the hope, when everything seems so hopeless? Desmond Tutu put it better than I can: "Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness."

To everyone who continues to support us - thank you all, for your humanity, your love and your kindness.

Sam Price



ACTIVITIES & SERVICES

Beyond Detention provides emotional and practical support to people detained in Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre (IRC) and post-detention, in the community.

To people in detention, whatever their background or context, we offer emotional and practical support, building trust and providing additional support through our extensive referral pathways. We offer one-to-one befriending, emotional support and practical support such as mobile phone credit, as well as advocacy, non-legal casework and referrals to other support organisations. We hold three drop-in sessions each week for the men and women, spending time getting to know them, playing board games, writing letters of support and helping them to understand their situation.

Post-detention we provide a support network, one-to-one phone befriending, a friendship group, online skills-based courses, mobile data and phone credit, digital devices and supermarket vouchers. We help clients to find support within their new community by referring them to organisations that can help them access accommodation, health, food banks, clothing, legal support, spiritual support and friendship.

We have a staff team of 6 (4.5 FTE), supported by a growing body of volunteers.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer numbers grew steadily over the year, and at the end of March we had 49 people registered with us as volunteers. Of those, 13 were male, 36 female, and 10 had lived experience of immigration detention.

We are very proud of our excellent volunteer induction process and ongoing support, and it is often commented on by our volunteers:

“Some of the induction processes I have endured at new workplaces over the years have been nowhere near as good as this. I am very impressed how professionally such a small charity is operating.”

We once again offered a 70-day work placement to a student social worker from the University of Bedfordshire, and this year we also took on an intern from the University of Essex for 4 months.

Isaac has been volunteering with us for a few years, and is a much-valued member of our Steering Group. He facilitates the Friendship Group meetings and welcomes new members. He has attended our Annual Conference and training sessions, and during 2024-25 sat on a panel to review our Safeguarding Policies and Procedures.

He is also part of a lived experience team compiling a directory of support for people leaving immigration detention, and regularly represents Beyond Detention at other events, such as AVID meetings and training.

“After I was released from detention, my mental health state was in a very critical condition. Soon after being referred to join the friendship group I was happy to meet and open up with other people having had same experience like mine. Therefore I realised how valuable would my contribution be to the group, especially to those newly released from detention.

I volunteered to support the Steering Group in order to share my own experience while recommending strategies that helped me navigate the struggles of traumas and anxieties that go along with the detention experiences even after being released.”

RISK MANAGEMENT

2024-25 saw unprecedented far-right violence, directed at the people we support and our organisations. We took steps to ensure the safety of our staff, volunteers, and the people we walk alongside; and with our sector we shared best practice and sources of support.

We maintain a live Risk Register covering external and internal risk factors. This is reviewed quarterly by the CEO and Board of Trustees, and is updated following any increase in risk, such as the one highlighted above.

All our volunteers including Trustees are DBS checked and required to sign annually a Volunteer Agreement and Code of Conduct, as well as undertake safeguarding training. All our course tutors are also DBS checked, sign a Code of Conduct and comply with our Safeguarding Policies.

We operate a safer recruitment policy, and all our staff with client involvement have monthly supervision.

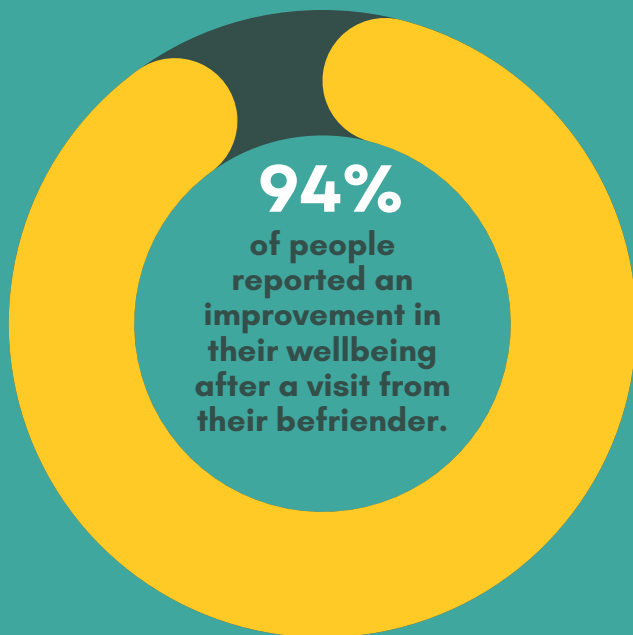
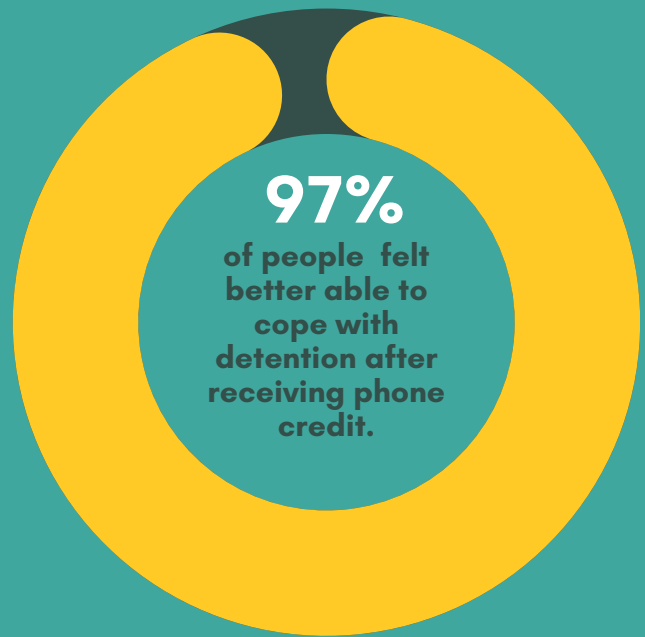
All our staff and volunteers have access to our 24-hour Assistance Programme from Health Assured.



ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

In 2024-25 we supported 1,700 people in immigration detention and in the community, post-detention.

Last year saw a **huge increase** in the numbers of people we supported, and numbers remained at this high level **throughout 2024-25**. More people entered immigration detention in 2024-25 than in the previous year (**20,919** in 2024-25 compared to 19,039 in 2023-24), and the highest number of people entering detention in the UK was at Yarl's Wood IRC (3,576 people).



Average weekly attendance at our drop-in sessions **was 100**.



96% of people reported an **improvement in wellbeing** after attending drop-in.

ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

We supported 237 people post-detention.

Our volunteer befrienders made

230 VISITS

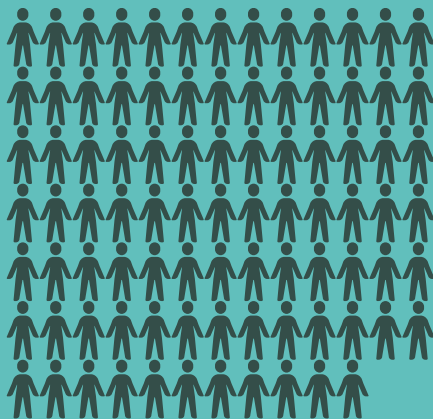
to people in immigration detention.

We gave out **2,656** mobile phone top-ups & **105** digital devices and/or data.



We gave out **236** supermarket vouchers.

89 people attended our online **Friendship Group**



100%

of people reported feeling better connected to their community as a result of our support.

143

people attended our online courses.

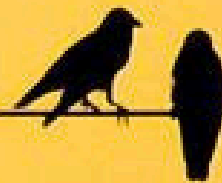
THEIR WORDS

"What you guys do makes me feel heard; thank you, thank you"

"When I joined Beyond Detention group, my life changed, I was listened to Friendship Group is not just a group, it's a family to me"

"I'm able to buy some fresh groceries and toiletries at least on alternative months. Thanks a lot."

"He gives me the motivational spirit to keep going, a very nice man."





CASE STUDIES

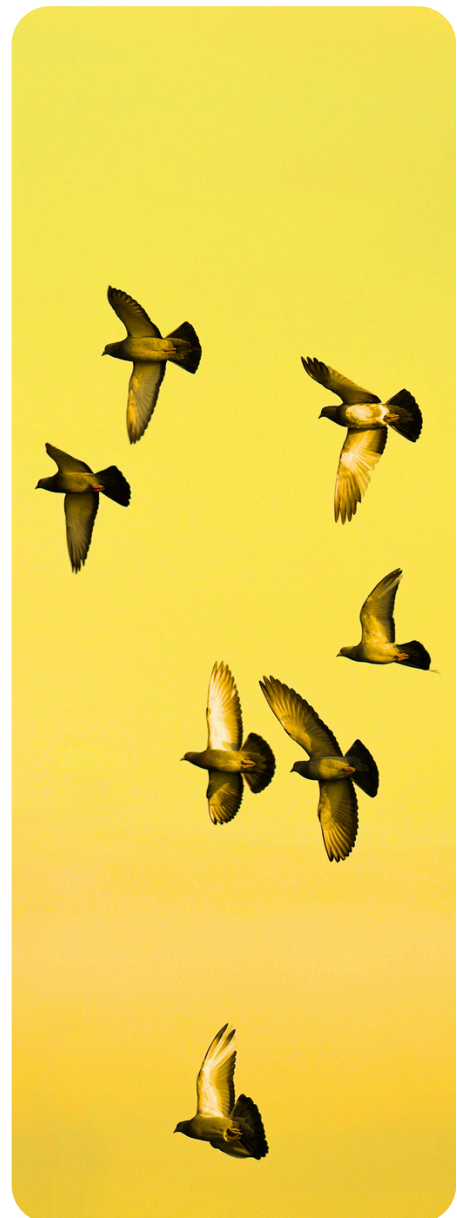
Danielle*

Danielle was referred to us by her husband Trevor,* a British citizen, following her detention by immigration officials in March 2025. Trevor told us she suffered from dementia and epilepsy. She had been living with him legally in the UK since 2016, but they had forgotten to renew her leave to remain; she was therefore classified as an “overstayer”, arrested and taken from their home to Yarl’s Wood IRC.

We met Danielle at our weekly drop-in, and immediately raised a safeguarding concern. We referred her husband to our partners at Medical Justice, who sent a doctor in to assess her.

The doctor concluded that she lacked mental capacity. Nonetheless, the Home Office decided she should be deported to her country of origin. In their words she was “barrier-free for removal”. Her husband was able to instruct solicitors on her behalf, and an urgent application was made to cancel the flight and release her from immigration detention.

A few anxious days later, she was indeed released, and we provided her husband with a train ticket from his home in the Midlands to go to collect her. We are continuing to support them through our post-detention service.





CASE STUDIES



Alex*

Alex arrived in the UK in January 2025 with no ID, and during his initial interview advised Border Force that he was 16. Unfortunately they did not believe him and assessed him as 23. He was sent to Yarl's Wood, where we met him and began supporting him with monthly phone credit. It was a few months later that he told us he was a child, and we immediately sought advice from our partners at AVID, Humans for Rights Network and Bhatt Murphy Solicitors.

We referred Alex to Children's Services at the local authority, and they visited him at Yarl's Wood. We also raised a safeguarding concern, and submitted a Freedom of Information (FOI) request to the Home Office. After a significant delay, the Home Office accepted that he was indeed a child, and he was immediately released from detention and looked after by the local authority.

****Names have been changed for data protection purposes***

POST-DETENTION FREEDOM BIRDS

On 21st August 2024, the Home Secretary announced the government's intention to continue with the plans made under the previous government to reopen Campsfield House and Haslar detention centres.

Initiated by people who have lived the realities of immigration detention in the UK, Freedom Birds are a call for change. They illustrate the hurt that is caused by detention, their original creators bravely sharing personal stories with the hope that this will prevent more people from being detained.

These birds were created by members of our Art Group, in a collaborative project with AVID, the Association of Visitors to Immigration Detention. The Freedom Birds were inspired by Maya Angelou's poem, "Caged Bird". AVID asked people to create their own Freedom Birds and send them to their MPs calling for an end to detention expansion. Full details of the project can be found on the AVID website – search "Freedom Birds".



OUR PARTNERS

Collaboration is key to the work we do, both within detention settings and across the UK. We would like to thank the following organisations, and apologise for any omissions!

Asylum Support Appeals Project
AVID (Association of Visitors to Immigration Detention)
Bedford Heights
BID (Bail for Immigration Detainees)
BRASS (Bedfordshire Refugee & Asylum Seeker Support)
British Red Cross
Care 4 Calais
CVS Bedfordshire
Detention Action
Detention Forum
Durham Visitor Group
Emmaus Village Carlton
GDWG (Gatwick Detainee Visitor Group)
Goldsmiths University
Hear Me Out
Hibiscus
Humans for Rights Network
ILPA (Immigration Law Practitioners' Association)
IMB (Independent Monitoring Board)
IMIX
JCWI (Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants)
JRS (Jesuit Refugee Service)
King's Arms Project
Medical Justice
NACCOM
Navigating Migration
Praxis
Refugee Action
Refugee Council
Rene Cassin
Right to Remain
Safer Foundations
Salvation Army
Scottish Detainee Visitors
Trauma Treatment International
University of Bedfordshire
University of Essex
Women 4 Refugee Women

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

for the year ended 31 March 2025

As instructed I have carried out an independent examination of the unaudited accounts of Beyond Detention for the period ended 31 March 2025.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and Examiner

It is the responsibility of the Trustees to keep proper books of account and maintain records sufficient to prepare accounts, which are properly drawn up in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

It is my responsibility to examine the accounts and financial records in line with applicable directions given by the Charity Commission and obtain any further information and explanations I may find necessary, and to report to you on my examination.

Report

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

.....
Simon Mason BSc FCA
Simas Accounting & Tax
Chartered Accountants

14 October 2025

.....
Date

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Income and expenditure account

	Notes	2024-25			2023-24		
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources							
Grants & Donations		105,471	202,449	307,920	109,065	102,915	211,980
Interest Income		1,376	-	1,376	1,229	-	1,229
Gross Income		106,847	202,449	309,297	110,294	102,915	213,209
Expenses							
Operating Costs							
Post Detention	2	-	46,775	46,775	29,886	31,621	61,507
In Detention	3	-	34,446	34,446	4,907	35,954	40,861
Staff Cost	4	58,560	134,748	193,308	127,134	39,329	166,463
Overheads	5	26,537	3,266	29,803	26,862	15,417	42,279
Total Expenses		85,097	21,935	304,332	188,789	122,321	311,110
Net Income / (Deficit)		21,750	(16,786)	4,964	(78,495)	(19,406)	(97,901)
Funds Brought Forward		69,939	16,786	86,725	148,434	36,192	184,626
Funds Carried Forward		91,689	-	91,689	69,939	16,786	86,725

BALANCE SHEET

	2024-25	2023-24
	£	£
Current Assets		
Bank (Current and Reserve Accounts)	166,002	147,768
Accounts Recievable	1,400	-
Total Current Assets	167,402	147,768
Creditors: Amounts Failing due within one year		
Accounts Payable	2,551	2,615
Income in Advance	69,997	55,242
NIC Payable	1,692	1,774
PAYE Payable	1,432	1,349
Student Loan Deductions Payable	41	63
Total Current Liabilities	75,713	61,043
Net Current Assets	91,689	86,725
Unrestricted Income Funds	91,689	69,939
Restricted Income Funds	-	16,786
Total Capital and Reserves	91,689	86,725

The Trustees declare that they have approved the accounts above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees:

.....
Robina Pelham Burn

14 October 2025

.....
Date



GRANTS & DONATIONS

Over £50,000

National Lottery Community Fund

£25,001-£50,000

Harpur Trust
Henry Smith

£10,001-£25,000

Bromley Trust
Tudor Trust
Farthing Trust

£1,000-£10,000

29th May 1961 Charitable Trust
Gale Family
Souter Charitable Trust
Wixamtree Trust
St Albans Cathedral
The Panacea Charitable Trust

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of the preparation of the accounts:

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP revised 2005), the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

Going Concern:

After reviewing the company's forecasts and projections, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The company therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing its financial statements.

Revenue Recognition:

Turnover comprises the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for the sale of goods and provision of services in the

ordinary course of the company's activities. Turnover is shown net of sales/value added tax, returns, rebates and discounts.

The company recognises revenue when:

- the amount of revenue can be reliably measured;
- it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity;
- and specific criteria have been met for each of the company's activities.

Grant Income:

Grants received that do not impose specified future performance related conditions are recognised in income when the grant is receivable. Grants received where there are conditions imposed are recognised in income when those conditions are met.

Grants relating to revenue are recognised in income in the period the related costs are incurred by the entity for which the grant is intended to compensate.

Grants received in respect of capital assets are recognised in income on a systematic basis over the useful life of the asset.

Deferred Income:

Amounts received in advance of the provision of services are recognised as income in advance and presented within creditors: amounts falling due within one year.

Pension Costs:

In January 2017 the charity began a defined contribution pension scheme with the National Employment Savings Trust. All appropriate costs are allocated in these accounts.

Resources expended:

These have been analysed using a classification appropriate to the activities of the organisation.

Leasing expenses:

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the profit and loss account on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

2. Post Detention Costs

	2024-25			2023-24		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Post detention						
Courses	-	24,837	24,837	20,414	10,000	30,414
Devices	-	1,982	1,982	4,033	5,000	9,033
Mobile Top-up	-	10,035	10,035	3,364	7,000	10,364
Wellbeing Vouchers	-	5,675	5,675	1,015	7,500	8,515
Translation Service	-	1,681	1,681	1,060	1,440	2,500
Steering GP vouchers	-	1,700	1,700	-	-	-
Social Events	-	865	865	-	681	681
Total Post detention	-	46,775	46,775	29,886	31,621	61,507

3. In Detention Costs

	2024-25			2023-24		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
In detention						
Social Events	-	-	-	302	-	302
Clothing	-	13,174	13,174	-	18,744	18,744
Phone Credit	-	16,333	16,333	4,605	16,000	20,605
Removal Grants	-	2,820	2,820	-	770	770
Free Phone Number	-	198	198	-	216	216
Drop-in Costs	-	1,921	1,921	-	224	224
Total In detention	-	34,446	34,446	4,907	35,954	40,861

4. Staff Costs and Numbers

	2024-25			2023-24		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Staff cost						
Salaries and Oncosts	47,435	134,748	182,183	115,244	39,329	154,573
Staff EAP	994	-	994	-	-	-
Fundraising Consulting	10,131	-	10,131	11,890	-	11,890
Total Staff cost	58,560	134,748	193,308	127,134	39,329	166,463

5. Overhead costs

	2024-25			2023-24		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Overheads						
Rent	9,020	-	9,020	7,230	-	7,230
IT and office costs	4,625	-	4,625	3,620	-	3,620
Marketing & Communications	2,419	-	2,419	1,569	-	1,569
Insurance	1,230	-	1,230	501	-	501
Audit Fees	234	-	234	213	-	213
Bank Fees	76	-	76	71	-	71
Recruitment Costs	-	-	-	3,187	-	3,187
HR Provision Costs	807	-	807	2,916	-	2,916
DBS Checks	-	266	266	465	-	465
Volunteer Training and expenses	2553	-	2553	-783	4260	3,477
Annual Conference	2,296	-	2,296	2,396	-	2,396
Staff Group Supervision	1,920	-	1,920	690	-	690
Staff and Trustees training	160	1175	1335	3,382	-	3,382
Staff and Trustees Travel & Subsistence	1,197	1,825	3,022	-	-	-
Other Expenses	-	-	-	1,405	1000	2,405
CRM Implementation	-	-	-	-	10157	10,157
Total Overheads	26,537	3,266	29,803	26,862	15,417	42,279

6. Trustees' remuneration, benefits and expenses

The Trustees received no remuneration or expenses in the year. A number of Trustees are also Befrienders and can claim expenses relevant to those activities.

7. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

8. Independent examination and accountancy services

During the period, the cost of the inspection of the accounts was £50 (exclusive of VAT).

9. Annual commitments under operating leases

The organisation rents two rooms at 43 Bromham Road, Bedford, MK40 2AA for office premises, the notice period being six months.

10. Glossary of Terms

Restricted funds: These are funds given to the charity, subject to specific restrictions set by the donor, but still within the general objects of the charity.

11. The charity's policy on reserves

During the previous year, the Board reviewed the charity's Reserves Policy and changed it to the following:

"It is the policy of the Trustees to maintain throughout the year reserves equivalent to approximately 3-6 months' worth of staff costs and the cost of redundancies. This is to enable the organisation to meet its statutory obligations and wind up in an orderly fashion, if all cash inflows were to cease."

This figure is calculated to be £72,000. At 31 March 2025, the charity held net assets / unrestricted funds of £91,689.

In the Trustees' opinion, at year end the reserves exceed the reserves target under the Reserves Policy.

BEYOND DETENTION



Beyond Detention is a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales, number 07652500 and a registered charity, number 1143160



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.



beyonddetentionbedford



beyond-detention



beyonddetention



beyonddetention.bsky.social

Beyond Detention

England & Wales - Charity number 1143160

Accounts

BEYOND DETENTION



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"For the cause that lacks assistance
The wrong that needs resistance
For the future in the distance
And the good that I can do."

George Linnaeus Banks

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Full Name Beyond Detention

Registered charity number 1143160

Registered company number 07652500

Registered address

43 Bromham Road

Bedford

MK40 2AA

Directors (Trustees)

Wozani Chida (appointed 6.3.2024), Jivan Dempsey, Sarah Grahame, Eleanor Hitchman, Kristen Hope Burchill, Angela Huddart (resigned 15.9.2023), Catherine Kirk (Vice-Chair), Robina Pelham Burn (Chair), Kinga Simony (Treasurer) (appointed 14.9.2023), Stella Shyanguya

Independent examiner

Rob Baxter

Retired Life Member, Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

Governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and registered with the Charity Commission. It is operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated 31 May 2011 as amended on 12 November 2021 and on 12 March 2022. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £10.

Trustees are appointed on the basis of their commitment to the aims of the organisation and their willingness to devote both their time and talents to the cause. All Trustees are appointed by a vote at Trustees' meetings and have due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. A governance review took place in 2022–23.

Aims and objectives

The charity's objects ("Objects") are specifically restricted to the charitable relief of those detained in, or leaving, Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre (YWIRC).

FROM THE CHAIR

When the anti-immigration riots and racist attacks took place in July and August 2024, the staff displayed their usual combination of professionalism and compassion. They immediately contacted every single person we were supporting and checked in with them over the days that followed.

Their response exemplifies what we do as a charity: recognise as individuals and treat with humanity the men and women detained in Yarl's Wood IRC and those recently released from immigration detention.

The staff team was led for much of 2023–24 by Donna-Louise Cobban, who oversaw our transition from Yarl's Wood Befrienders to Beyond Detention, a change that reflected the expansion of our post-detention services. We wish her well in her new role with Emmaus.

Sam Price joined us as CEO in January 2024, bringing with her a wealth of experience in the voluntary sector, most recently with a homelessness charity in Luton. Sam has achieved an immense amount in a short time, not least in strengthening relationships with other organisations, crucial for a small charity.

This is an opportunity to thank our funders, big and small, who are listed in the financial statements at the end of this report. They not only make it possible for us to deliver our services, but also serve as critical friends, helping us to view objectively what we do and consider whether there are better ways for us to fulfil our mission and objectives.

Thank you also to my fellow trustees. Their skills, knowledge and experience – in human rights, charity leadership, clinical psychology, finance, HR and education – enrich the charity.

My final thank you is to our valiant body of volunteers, who help run drop-in sessions within Yarl's Wood, undertake one-to-one befriending of people in detention and after their release, act as caseworkers and serve on the steering group for our Friendship Group and other post-detention activities.

In my time as chair, the number of volunteers, staff and trustees with personal experience of immigration detention and forced migration has steadily climbed. This is vital: input from people with lived experience guides what we do and how we do it.



Robina Pelham Burn

FROM THE CEO

I was delighted to take over as CEO at Beyond Detention in January 2024. Living locally, I have always been aware of the organisation and admired its reputation and resolve. Addressing social injustice and inequity is incredibly important to me, and I am proud to lead such a compassionate and dedicated team of people.

I write this in the aftermath of the far-right violence we experienced in the summer of 2024, which shocked so many of us to our core. The people we support were directly targeted, and they felt afraid and anxious. It has highlighted to me the importance of the work we do, but also how essential it is to work together to change the negative narrative around people seeking asylum. For too long, people in power and the media have used derogatory and inflammatory language to incite fear and hatred in the general public, directed against people fleeing war, persecution and torture. This has to change.



One of my most enjoyable early experiences at Beyond Detention was joining our weekly Friendship Group, and meeting the people we support. The Group is run by eight people with lived experience of immigration detention, and they welcomed me into the group unequivocally. I am passionate about involving people with lived experience in all aspects of our work, from decision-making and strategy to services and operations, and so we will be looking to increase opportunities for the people we support to become even more involved with our organisation.

I have to thank my team of staff, Trustees and volunteers for all their support and advice, but also our partner organisations, such as AVID, the Detention Forum, Detention Action, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), Bail for Immigration Detainees (BiD), Hibiscus and the Independent Monitoring Board. This is not an exhaustive list, and my apologies to anyone I have forgotten to mention!

This year has seen a huge increase in the number of people we have supported, both in Yarl's Wood IRC and beyond, but with the same sized team as we had last year. This shows the need for our work, and the resilience and determination of our staff. I am also extremely grateful to our funders, who continue to believe in us, and in the work we do. As you will read in our report, it really does make a difference to people's lives.

ACTIVITIES & SERVICES

Beyond Detention provides emotional and practical support to people detained in Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre (IRC) and post-detention, in the community.

To people in detention, we offer one-to-one befriending, emotional support and practical support such as mobile phone credit and clothing, as well as advocacy, non-legal casework and referrals to other support organisations. We hold three drop-in sessions each week for the men and women, spending time getting to know them, playing board games and writing letters of support.

Post-detention we provide a support network, one-to-one phone befriending, a friendship group, online skills-based courses, mobile data and phone credit, digital devices, supermarket vouchers and referrals to specialist organisations.

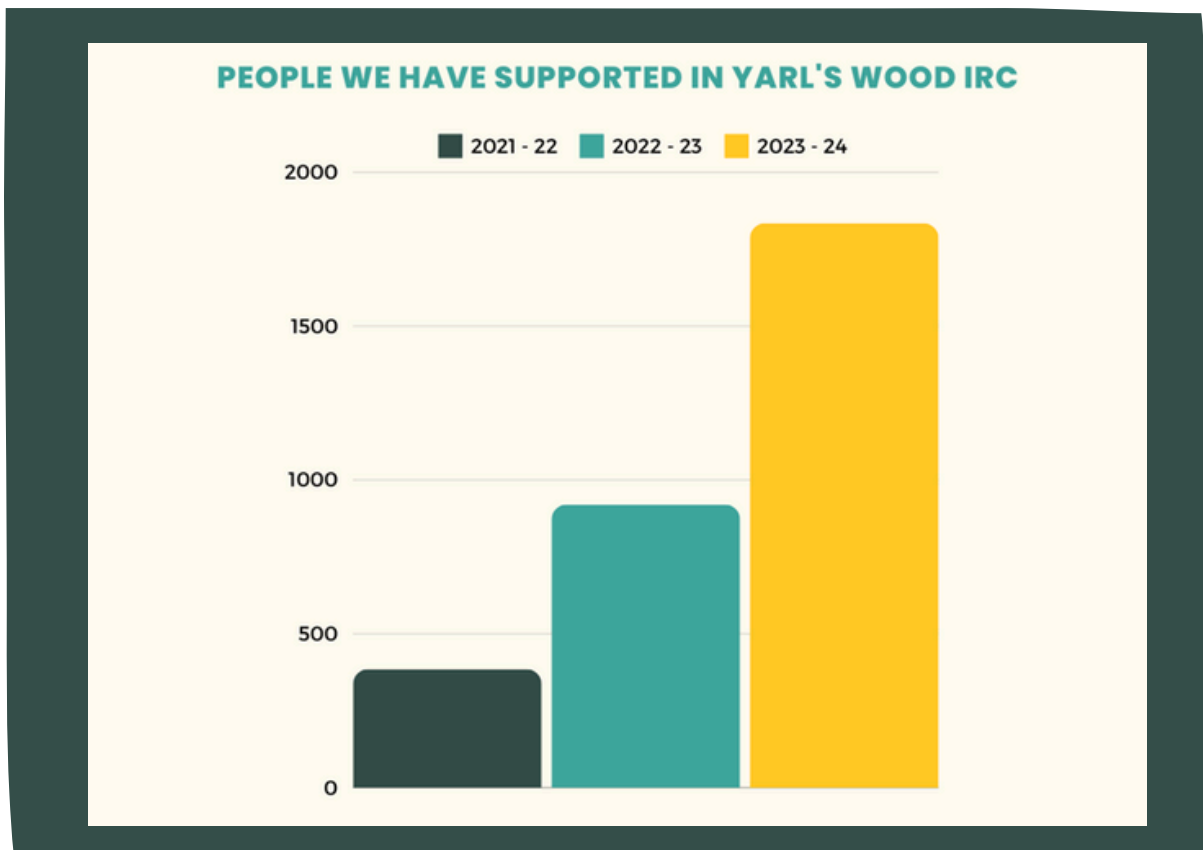
We have a staff team of 6 (4.5 FTE), supported by a body of volunteers.



ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

In 2023–24, we saw a huge increase in the number of people we supported in Yarl’s Wood IRC as a direct result of legislation such as the Illegal Migration Act, which came into effect in March 2023, and the Nationality & Borders Act of 2022.

More and more people were detained, albeit for shorter periods of time, meaning there was a higher demand for the practical support we can offer, such as phone credit and clothing. At the end of the year, around 30% of the male residents were attending our weekly drop-in. The other impact this had on our work was that fewer people requested a befriender, as they were not in Yarl’s Wood for very long. We continued to be responsive to people’s needs, and through regular surveys and feedback we assessed how we could further develop our offer.

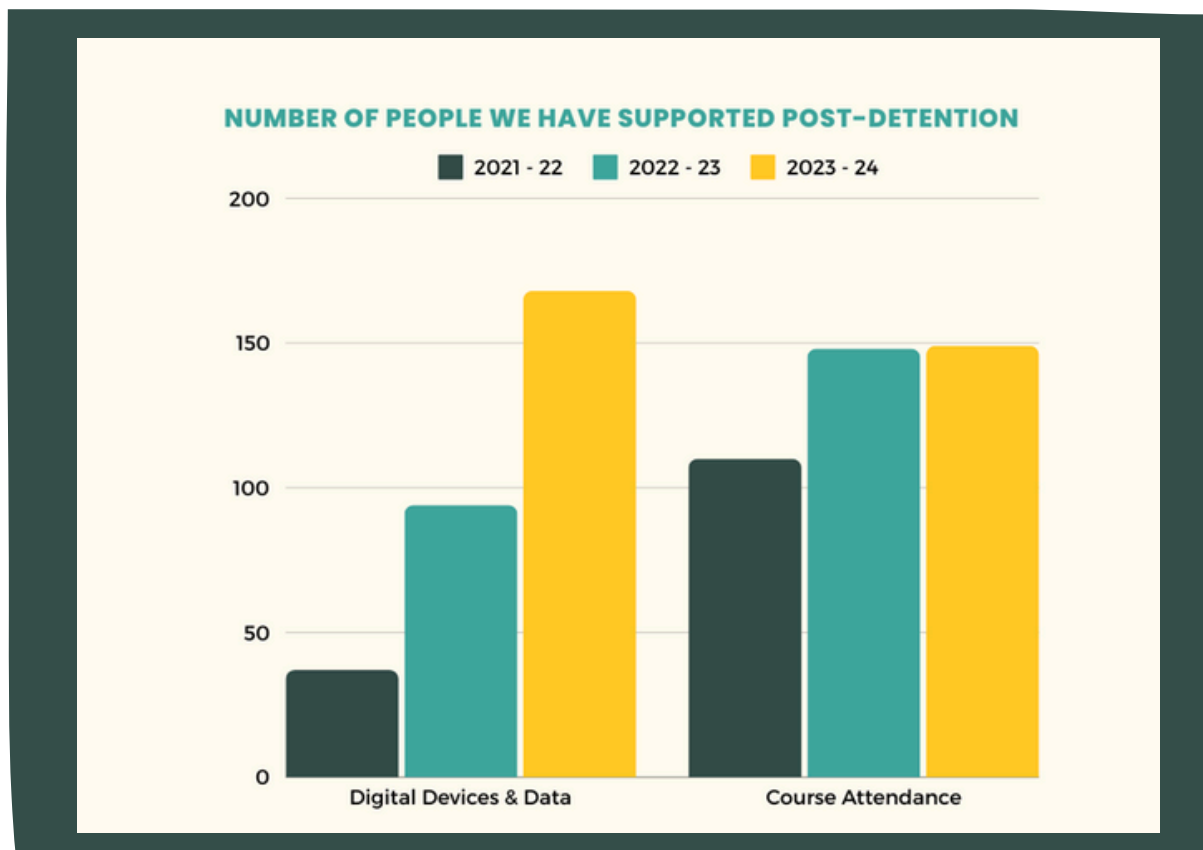


“Beyond Detention are the best. They’re making our lives in detention much easier.”

The main issue for people who were detained in Yarl’s Wood IRC in 2023–24 was that, having been granted bail by the immigration court, they remained in detention due to delays in Home Office approval of their accommodation. Delays of three months from when bail had been granted were not unusual. We also heard from people who had agreed to be returned to their country of origin (voluntary returns) but were stuck in detention for weeks, waiting for the Home Office to arrange it, since they are not allowed to organise their own departure.

ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

Post-detention, we supported more people with non-legal casework and advocacy, as well as signposting them to other support organisations across the country once they were released. Our online course attendance and Friendship Group attendance remained broadly similar to the previous year, and in line with our expectations. We gave away 74 more digital devices and SIM cards than in the previous year.



“I smile a lot when it is Wednesday because I am looking forward to meeting people in this group. Our gathering has made my life better. Thank you so much.”

Following extensive feedback from the people we support, we committed to finding a pathway post-detention to help connect them to each other and to their communities. Regular attendees of our Friendship Group, all of whom have lived experience of immigration detention, have now formed a Steering Group which has taken over responsibility for the group. They choose the topics, facilitate the sessions and follow up where necessary.

ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE



Phone credit
1,574 people received phone credit



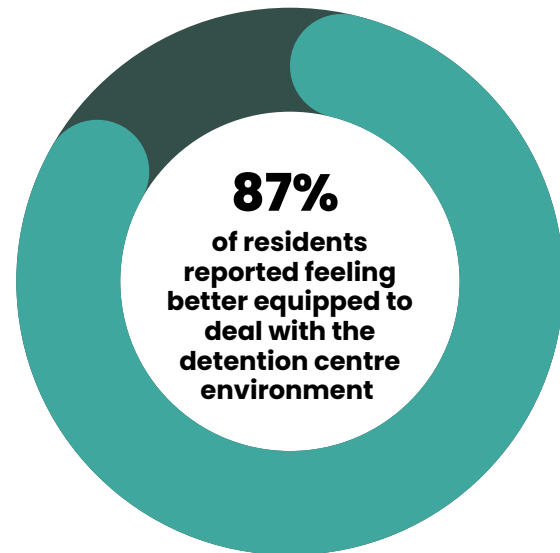
Online courses
149 people participated in our online courses



Clothing
1,035 people received clothing from us



Drop in sessions
5,502 people attended our weekly drop ins at Yarl's Wood IRC



91%
of residents have reported a reduction in loneliness and an improvement in wellbeing

VOLUNTEERING

In 2023–24 we created a new volunteering pathway to increase the number of opportunities for people with lived experience to be involved in our organisation. The intention is that those released from detention will represent us at events, such as recruitment fairs and festivals, and help with our influencing and advocacy work. We plan to have people with lived experience providing translation services for those in detention and offering peer support to newly released individuals by researching support available for them in other parts of the country. People with lived experience will continue to sit on interview panels and deliver elements of our training to staff and volunteers. We have seen from the opportunities we already offer for people with lived experience to be involved that this can make a huge difference to their wellbeing, their mental health and their feeling of connection.

“This group is bringing out who I used to be before the wilderness journey...Thank you so much.”

Overall, our volunteer numbers remained stable. We ran quarterly online Information Sessions throughout the year for people who had expressed an interest in volunteering with us and held three in-person training days. At the end of the year, we had 37 volunteers, 27 female and 10 male. Eight of our volunteers (22%) had lived experience of immigration detention.

“I feel my work is helping those in need in a practical, tangible way. I ... feel that I'm working within a well-run organisation, which is important to me.”

In January, we held our Annual Conference at the University of Bedfordshire. Forty volunteers, staff, clients and stakeholders attended. They received an update on our work, a workshop on boundaries and two presentations, one from AVID (The Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees) about the impact of the Illegal Migration Act, and one from the Detention Forum, about alternatives to detention.

“I found the day invigorating and it renewed my sense of purpose and belonging.”

Our Coordinators were supported between November 2023 and May 2024 by a student social worker on work placement from the University of Bedfordshire. She offered one-to-one support by phone, often utilising the telephone translation service, as well as assisting at the drop-ins. This has been a mutually beneficial relationship, enabling students to gain valuable experience and knowledge, and providing support to our staff team.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The change in the demographic of the people held at Yarl's Wood IRC, coupled with some widely publicised security breaches, led us to complete personal safety and de-escalation training with our staff and drop-in volunteers. We also introduced a monthly "Reflective Space" for our volunteers, facilitated by a trained counsellor, to ensure they have opportunities to reflect on the valuable yet sometimes challenging work they do.

All our volunteers are required to sign annually a Volunteer Agreement and Code of Conduct, as well as undertake safeguarding training.

We maintain a live Risk Register covering external and internal risk factors. This is reviewed quarterly by the CEO and Board of Trustees.



INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of Beyond Detention for the year ended 31 March 2024

I report on the accounts of the charity, which are set out below.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Date: 17th September 2024

Rob Baxter, Independent Examiner
Retired Life Member, Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

INCOME & EXPENDITURE

	2022-23	Unrestricted	2023-24	Total
	£	£	Restricted £	£
Incoming Resources				
Grants and Donations	346,638.20	109,064.71	102,915.40	211,980.11
Interest Income	271.81	1,229.05		1,229.05
Gross Profit	346,910.01	110,293.76	102,915.40	213,209.16
Operating Costs Total	346,910.01	110,293.76	102,915.40	213,209.16
Total Post-detention	64,179.24	29,885.96	31,621.06	61,507.02
Total In-detention	33,890.61	4,907.43	35,953.83	40,861.26
Total Operating Costs	98,069.85	34,793.39	67,574.89	102,368.28
Overheads				
Marketing & Communications	2,255.14	1,569.18		1,569.18
Audit Fees	193.00	213.00		213.00
Insurance	461.47	500.54		500.54
Rent	7,032.00	7,230.00		7,230.00
Fundraising Consulting	6,021.00	11,889.86		11,889.86
Bank Fees	75.64	71.33		71.33
Recruitment Costs	1,800.00	3,187.00		3,187.00
IT Software and Consumables	2,509.18	1,700.65		1,700.65
Subscriptions	763.10	793.00		793.00
Postage, Freight & Courier	86.78	179.78		179.78
Stationery	723.96	200.76		200.76
Telephone & Internet	824.46	745.21		745.21
Salaries	121,638.38	100,982.50	39,329.00	140,311.50
Employer's National Insurance	5,239.24	6,195.36		6,195.36
Pensions Costs	7,385.60	8,066.29		8,066.29
HR Provision Costs	(4,000.00)	2,916.00		2,916.00
DBS Checks	1,835.08	465.20		465.20
Volunteer Training	285.20	(1,748.66)	3,504.00	1,755.34
Volunteer Expenses	1,347.15	966.38	756.00	1,722.38
Annual Conference	1,082.95	2,395.73		2,395.73
Staff Group Supervision	2,175.27	690.00		690.00
Staff Training	805.00	3,381.59		3,381.59
Other Expenses	9,293.38	1,404.88	1,000.00	2,404.88
CRM Implementation	0.00	0.40	10,157.00	10,157.40
Total Overheads	169,832.98	153,995.98	54,746.00	208,741.98
Total Expenses	267,902.83	188,789.37	122,320.89	311,110.26
Operating Profit	79,007.18	(78,495.61)	(19,405.49)	(97,901.10)
Profit on Ordinary activities Before Taxation	79,007.18	(78,495.61)	(19,405.49)	(97,901.10)
Profit after Taxation	79,007.18	(78,495.61)	(19,405.49)	(97,901.10)
Funds Brought Forward	105,618.60	148,434.24	36,191.54	184,625.78
Funds Carried Forward	184,625.78	69,938.63	16,786.05	86,724.68

BALANCE SHEET



2022-23		2023-24
£		£
	Current Assets	
191,311.37	Bank (Current and Reserve Accounts)	147,767.92
0.00	Petty Cash	0.00
0.00	Accounts Receivable	0.00
191,311.37	Total Current Assets	147,767.92
	Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	
2,996.26	Accounts Payable	2,615.18
0.00	Accruals	0.00
0.00	Income in Advance	55,242.00
1,104.29	Pensions Payable	0.00
1,495.84	NIC Payable	1,774.06
1,053.20	PAYE Payable	1,349.00
36.00	Student Loan Deductions Payable	63.00
6,685.59	Total Current Liabilities	61,043.24
184,625.78	Net Current Assets	86,724.68
148,434.24	Unrestricted Income funds	69,938.63
36,191.54	Restricted Income funds	16,786.05
184,625.78	Total Capital and Reserves	86,724.68

The Trustees declare that they have approved the accounts above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees:

Robina Pelham Burn

December 4, 2024

GRANTS & DONATIONS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
National Lottery Community Fund		57,758.00	57,758.00
John Apthorp Charity		10,157.40	10,157.40
Bromley Trust	15,000.00		15,000.00
House of Industry		15,000.00	15,000.00
Harpur Trust	15,000.00		15,000.00
Tudor Trust	30,000.00		30,000.00
Farthing Trust	12,000.00		12,000.00
29th May 1961 Charitable Trust	3,000.00		3,000.00
General Donations	8,064.71		8,064.71
People's Postcode Lottery	25,000.00		25,000.00
The Grocers' Charity		5,000.00	5,000.00
St Albans Cathedral	1,000.00		1,000.00
Hobsons Charitable Trust		6,000.00	6,000.00
Panacea Charitable Trust		7,000.00	7,000.00
Leeds Building Society		1,000.00	1,000.00
Bedford Borough Council		1,000.00	1,000.00
	109,064.71	102,915.40	211,980.11



*The John Apthorp
Charity*

Charity Number: 1102472

THE BROMLEY TRUST
HUMAN RIGHTS | PRISON REFORM



**HARPUR
TRUST**

**the
Tudor trust**

**AB CHARITABLE
TRUST**

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Accounting policies

Basis of the preparation of the accounts

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP revised 2005), the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

Incoming resources – Deferred Income

To enhance the accuracy of the financial status in the reports of the organisation, a significant change has been made to the presentation of income for the year. Specifically, the concept of “deferred income” is being introduced. This adjustment will ensure that income is only included for the financial year for which it is designated, improving transparency and financial clarity.

What is deferred income? Deferred income refers to funds received that are not yet earned and therefore should not be recognised as income in the current financial year. This practice is crucial for accurately reflecting the financial position, particularly when dealing with multi-year grants or contracts with performance-related conditions.

Application of Deferred Income

- Multi-year grants with conditions: when a grant is intended to cover multiple years and it includes specific conditions or milestones, the portion of the grant not applicable to the current year will be deferred. For example, if a three-year grant of £90,000 is received with performance conditions for each year, only the portion applicable to the current year will be recognised as income. The remaining amount will be deferred.
- Multi-year service contracts: similarly, for contracts involving the delivery of services over several years, the income will be recognised based on the services rendered within the financial year. If a contract worth £40,000 spans two years, it will be treated as £20,000 relating to each year, deferring the second year’s portion as a liability.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Financial Reporting Implications of Deferred Income

- Liability in year-end accounts: the deferred amount will be listed as a liability in the year-end accounts. This representation ensures that the financial statements accurately reflect the funds available for the current year's operations.
- Release as income in subsequent year: the deferred income will be recognised as income in the subsequent year, aligning with the period it is intended for and earned.



Benefits of Deferred Income Reporting

- Improved accuracy: by recognising income only for the financial year for which it is designated, the accuracy of the financial reports is enhanced.
- Transparency: this practice promotes greater transparency, allowing stakeholders to better understand the financial position and future obligations.
- Compliance: adopting deferred income reporting complies with Charity SORP and best practices while reinforcing the integrity of the financial management.

Summary

The introduction of deferred income is a strategic move to ensure the financial reporting is more accurate, transparent, and reflective of the organisation's true financial status.

While it will temporarily 'reduce' the year-end reserves substantially, this change will provide a clearer and more realistic view of the organisation's financial health, enabling better financial planning and management.

Pension costs

In January 2017 the charity began a defined contribution pension scheme with the National Employment Savings Trust. All appropriate costs are allocated in these accounts.

Resources expended

These have been analysed using a classification appropriate to the activities of the organisation.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost or valuation, less estimated residual value, of all tangible fixed assets over their expected useful lives on a straight-line basis.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

2. Staff costs and numbers

	2022 - 23	2023 - 24
Wages (inc NI & Pension Contributions)	£130,263	£154,573

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

The average FTE of the year was 4.5 FTE (4.5 March 2023).

3. Trustees' remuneration, benefits and expenses

The Trustees received no remuneration or expenses in the year. A number of Trustees are also Befrienders and can claim expenses relevant to those activities.

4. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

5. Independent examination and accountancy services

During the period, the cost of the inspection of the accounts was £200.

6. Annual commitments under operating leases

The organisation rents two rooms in 43 Bromham Road, Bedford, MK40 2AA for office premises, the notice period being six months.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

7. Glossary of Terms

Restricted funds: These are funds given to the charity, subject to specific restrictions set by the donor, but still within the general objects of the charity.

8. The charity's policy on reserves

During the year, the Board reviewed the charity's Reserves Policy and changed it to the following:

It is the policy of the Trustees to maintain throughout the year reserves equivalent to approximately 4 months' worth of staff costs and the cost of redundancies. This is to enable the organisation to meet its statutory obligations and wind up in an orderly fashion, if all cash inflows were to cease.

In 2024, this figure is calculated to be £72,000. At 31 March 2024, the charity held net assets / total funds of £86,725.

In the Trustees' opinion, at year end the reserves exceed the reserves target under the Reserves Policy.

9. Funds position

As a result of losses during the last two years and due to changes in the presentation of the accounts and the introduction of "deferred income", the remaining total reserves at 31 March 2024 were reduced to £87k. This figure includes the designated funds provision for closure and redundancies of £72k.



www.beyonddetention.org



info@beyonddetention.org



**BEYOND
DETENTION**

Beyond Detention

England & Wales - Charity number 1143160

Accounts



BEYOND DETENTION

Annual Report and Financial
Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

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of the accounts



General information

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Name Beyond Detention

Registered charity number 1143160

Registered company number 07652500

Registered Office 43 Bromham Road, Bedford, MK40 2AA

Directors (trustees)

Jivan Dempsey, Sarah Grahame, Eleanor Hitchman, Kristen Hope Burchill, Angela Huddart
Catherine Kirk (Vice-Chair), Robina Pelham Burn (Chair), Stella Shyanguya

Independent Examiner Rob Baxter – Retired Life Member, Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

Banker HSBC, 12 Allhallows, Bedford, MK40 1LJ

Governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and registered with the Charity Commission. It is operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated 31st May 2011 as amended on 12th November 2021 and on 12th March 2022. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £10.

Trustees are appointed on the basis of their commitment to the aims of the organisation and their willingness to devote both their time and talents to the cause. All trustees are appointed by a vote at trustees' meetings and have due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. A governance review took place in 2022–23.

Aims and objectives

The charity's objectives ("objects") are specifically restricted to the charitable relief of those detained in, and who have left, Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre (YWIRC).



From the Chair

In the past year, asylum seekers and immigration detention have rarely been out of the news. While the newspapers reported on the numbers and the wrangling over the Illegal Immigration Bill, we continued to focus on the individuals behind the figures, specifically those detained at Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre (YWIRC) and those released from Yarl's Wood and allowed to remain – temporarily or permanently – in the UK.



By offering emotional and practical support as well as referrals to other organisations and charities, we can and do make a difference. Demand for our services has never been higher. We are grateful to our funders, big and small, who are listed in the financial statements at the end of this report; to our growing network of local partners, not least the University of Bedfordshire; to the staff and volunteers who contribute in so many different ways; and to those with personal experience of immigration detention on the board, in the staff team and among our volunteers, whose guidance is invaluable.

ROBINA PELHAM BURN – CHAIR

From the CEO

Like many NGOs the need for our support services during 2022–23 has steadily increased to levels not experienced for many years. I am proud of how our staff and volunteer teams have continued to embrace the challenges of supporting increased numbers of people who have been impacted by immigration detention both at Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre (YWIRC) and across the UK in the community, post-detention. I am very pleased that as an organisation we have supported over 900 people during 2022–23 as they continue their journey with us wherever that may be.

During this time, we have taken the opportunity to develop our support services further as a response to pressures of financial poverty, digital exclusion and general social isolation affecting our service users. You will be able to read more about our outcomes and impacts later in this report.

I am delighted that as an organisation we took the opportunity to update our Vision, Mission, Values statement and our strategic plan in 2022–23 and we now have three new priorities: 'Our services', 'Our community' and 'Our identity'. Again, more information on this can be found later in the report!

As CEO, one of my main priorities is the financial health of the organisation. I am pleased that we have been able to extend our income generation to improve our overall financial stability and I am truly grateful to the existing and new trusts and foundations who have put their faith and funding in us this year and in future years as we look to the ongoing needs of our service users.

I continue to be humbled by those who receive support from our staff and volunteers, and I enjoy being able to join my teams from time to time at our drop-ins in YWIRC. One of our most special activities, our Friendship Group, recently celebrated its second anniversary. In a recent survey of participants, 98 per cent of attendees reported that they felt more connected to a community. That is incredibly powerful in a world that is often dominated by loneliness and isolation.

Our work at YWIRC continues to evolve as we strive to meet the needs of those who are held there. With the generous support of our funders, we have been able to increase our practical support to those who are detained, and we now run drop-in sessions three times a week. I am reassured to know that 87 per cent of those who attended our drop-in sessions in 2022–23 reported a reduction in their feelings of isolation and an improvement in their wellbeing as a result of us being there.

And finally, we couldn't do what we do without the support of our fabulous volunteers and staff! They are a great team of kind, compassionate people who live our values in all that they do.

DONNA-LOUISE COBBAN – CEO

Strategic plan 2023–2026



Our vision

Is a time when people who experience immigration detention in the UK have their rights respected

Our mission

Through emotional and practical support, we empower, restore dignity to and improve the wellbeing of people in immigration detention and after their release



Our values

We are compassionate, empowering and inclusive
We act with integrity and kindness
We are respectful and non-judgmental



Strategic priorities

Our identity

Communicating clearly what we do
and who we are



Our community

The people we support, our staff
and volunteers, our stakeholders



Our support services

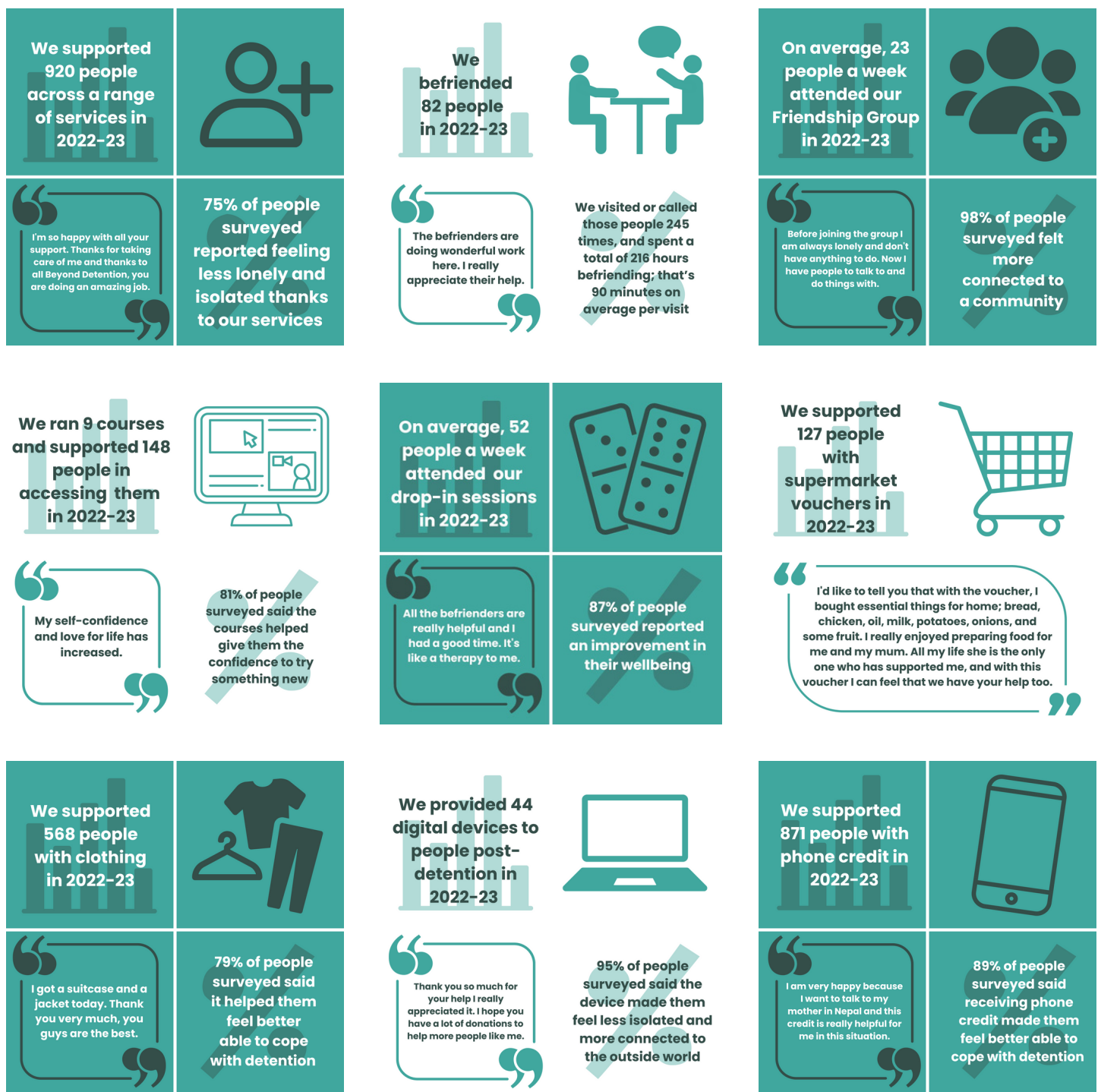
Providing emotional and practical support to
improve the wellbeing of people in
immigration detention and after their release

Outcomes and impacts

We continue to support a range of service users in our in-detention support services at YWIRC and post-detention support services in the community.

We offer support for the duration of their detention, through our weekly drop-in sessions and 1:1 support from a Befriender or our In-detention Coordinator. We also provide a range of practical support such as essential clothing and shoes, monthly phone top-ups, suitcases, and other supplies to support them on their journey when they leave YWIRC.

In our post-detention services, we support people for up to one year after they have left YWIRC, are given immigration bail and await confirmation of their leave to remain and right to work. This support service has developed in response to people's changing needs. We provide 1:1 support through our Post-detention Coordinator and volunteers. We continue to provide a number of support and informal learning groups through our Activities Coordinator, with new additions this year being introduced and adapted in response to service users' feedback. The Friendship Group, with its steering committee of people with lived experience of detention, and the online informal learning groups are a source of peer-to-peer support as well as offering information and new skills.





Volunteers and staff

Beyond Detention is proud of the compassion and dedication shown by the volunteers, who deliver our essential emotional and practical support services. Our team of circa 40 volunteers come from all walks of life and bring a wealth of skills and experiences, including more than 20 different languages. Many are local to Bedford, and more volunteers are joining us from the wider regional community as they seek to support those held in or leaving Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre (YWIRC).

Within our volunteer team we had some special milestones this year: John celebrated fifteen years as a volunteer, David, Monica and Sydney celebrated five years, and Priscilla, Louise and François completed their first year with us. Here's to many more volunteering years with us!

The pressures of family life, work and the cost-of-living crisis meant that more volunteers left us than was anticipated during 2022-23, but we did welcome six new volunteers into the team and volunteer recruitment continues to be a priority for us.

We are pleased to have a restructured staff team with a clear distinction between in-detention and post-detention teams. This has given us more flexibility in our work and the ability to be more responsive to the needs of our service users.



LORNA DELAYAHU

**IN-DETENTION
COORDINATOR**



ALINA KARIM

**POST-DETENTION
COORDINATOR**



BLANDINE MOKENGE-NAKIE

**ACTIVITIES
COORDINATOR**

Our volunteers and staff have continued to rise to the challenge of supporting more and more service users and are living our values in all that they do. We are eternally grateful for their contributions to Beyond Detention.



THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!



Risk management

The Home Office has confirmed that Yarl's Wood IRC will remain both an immigration removal centre and a short-term holding facility for men that includes a cohort of Foreign National Offenders awaiting deportation. Towards the end of this year, women began once again to be detained at YWIRC.

We are mindful that changes at YWIRC and to Home Office policy can constitute a risk to our operations. The new Illegal Migration Bill, still to be finalised at March 2023, will affect our service users and therefore us. The trustees are committed to regular monitoring of our risk register to ensure we are prepared for what the future brings.

We are conscious of the risks associated with a volunteer-led service. We will continue to recruit new volunteers, and to adapt and increase the services that our volunteers offer, and we will continue to develop volunteers' skills through training and information sessions.

All volunteers are given our code of conduct and sign a volunteering agreement. They are also guided by the policies reviewed annually by the trustees.





Report of the Independent Examiner

I report on the accounts of the charity, which are set out below.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

ROB BAXTER – INDEPENDENT EXAMINER



Statement of financial activities

In 2022–23, incoming resources were £346,910 and resources expended were £267,903, giving a net income of £79,007.

Funds carried forward at 31 March 2023 totalled £184,626.

The charity received grants and donations totalling £346,910, of which £192,184 were unrestricted funds and £154,726 were restricted funds.

Principal funding sources were the National Lottery Community Fund, the Lloyds Bank Foundation, The Harpur Trust, The Tudor Trust, AB Charitable Trust and The Bromley Trust.

We hold reserves of three to six months' operating costs, as detailed in the financial statements below, and are aware we must continue to develop our income generation plan and diversify our funding.



BELAL BUNIAN – FINANCE OFFICER

Funds held for third parties

No funds are held for third parties.

Exemptions

The trustees have taken advantage of the exemptions available to small companies, including the audit exemption (see statement in inspection report).

Responsibilities of the trustees

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the year and of the surplus or deficiency for the year then ended.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to: select suitable accounting policies, as described in this report, and then apply them on a consistent basis, making judgements and estimates that are prudent and reasonable. The members of the committee must also prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity, and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.



Income and expenditure

2021–22 Total Funds £		Unrestricted Funds £	2022–23 Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
	Incoming Resources			
163,357.89	Grants and Donations	191,912.33	154,725.87	346,638.20
7.34	Bank Interest	271.81		271.81
163,365.23	Total Incoming Resources	192,184.14	154,725.87	346,910.01
	Resources Expended			
128,931.57	Wages, NI and Pensions	54,945.98	77,717.24	132,663.22
388.00	Personnel/DBS Costs	3,635.08	285.20	3,920.28
4,089.33	Office Expenses	9,723.26		9,723.26
7,032.00	Rent and Rates	7,032.00		7,032.00
5,958.95	Consulting and Evaluation	6,021.00		6,021.00
808.97	Covid-19 Expenses	0.00		0.00
6,277.51	In-detention Support	8,663.26	25,227.35	33,890.61
28,824.75	Post-detention Support	40,743.69	23,435.55	64,179.24
134.25	Volunteer Expenses	2,758.22	1,847.15	4,605.37
1,638.79	Training	0.00	4,408.38	4,408.38
430.32	Insurance	461.47		461.47
4,201.00	Professional Fees	193.00		193.00
1,180.00	Staff Supervision	0.00	805.00	805.00
189,895.44	Total Resources Expended	134,176.96	133,725.87	267,902.83
-26,530.21	Net Income/(-) Expenditure	58,007.18	21,000.00	79,007.18
132,148.81	Total Funds Brought Forward	90,427.06	15,191.54	105,618.60
105,618.60	Total Funds Carried Forward	148,434.24	36,191.54	184,625.78



Balance sheet

2021–22 £		2022–23 £
	Current Assets	
39,113.19	Bank - Current Account	120,921.32
70,118.24	Bank - Reserve Account	70,390.05
109,231.43	Total Current Assets	191,311.37
	Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	
1,387.38	Accounts Payable	2,996.26
1,354.05	NIC Payable	1,495.84
871.40	PAYE Payable	1,053.20
0.00	Pensions Payable	1,104.29
0.00	Student Loan Deductions Payable	36.00
3,612.83	Total Current Liabilities	6,685.59
105,618.60	Net Current Assets	184,625.78
	Creditors: Amounts falling due after one year	
20,000.00	Provision - Closure costs	4,500.00
40,000.00	Provision - Running costs	41,000.00
10,000.00	Provision - Redundancies Reserve	24,500.00
70,000.00	Total Reserves	70,000.00
35,618.60	Net Assets	114,625.78
20,427.06	Unrestricted Income Funds	78,434.24
15,191.54	Restricted Income Funds	36,191.54
35,618.60	Total Capital and Reserves	114,625.78



Registered with



FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR

Grants and donations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
29th May 1961 Charitable Trust	3,000.00		3,000.00
AB Charitable Trust	17,000.00		17,000.00
Bromley Trust	15,000.00		15,000.00
Farthing Trust	12,000.00		12,000.00
Forrester Family Trust	40,000.00		40,000.00
Harpur Trust		8,000.00	8,000.00
Harpur Trust		43,000.00	43,000.00
House of Industry		7,885.87	7,885.87
Lloyds Bank Foundation	27,250.00		27,250.00
Online donations	2,087.39		2,087.39
Other donations	3,574.94		3,574.94
National Lottery Community Fund		90,000.00	90,000.00
Post-detention supermarket vouchers support		5,840.00	5,840.00
Souter Charitable Trust	3,000.00		3,000.00
Swan Mountain Trust	4,000.00		4,000.00
Tudor Trust	60,000.00		60,000.00
Wixamtree Trust	5,000.00		5,000.00
Total	191,912.33	154,725.87	348,910.00

Our thanks to





Notes forming parts of the accounts

1. Accounting policies

Basis of the preparation of the accounts

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP revised 2005), the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

Incoming resources

All material incoming resources have been included on a receivable basis – i.e. they are included if the date receivable falls within the period covered by these accounts.

Pension costs

As from January 2017 the charity began a defined contribution pension scheme with the National Employment Savings Trust. All appropriate costs are allocated in these accounts.

Resources expended

These have been analysed using a classification appropriate to the activities of the organisation.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost or valuation, less estimated residual value, of all tangible fixed assets over their expected useful lives on a straight-line basis.

2. Staff costs and numbers

	2022	2023
Wages (inc NI & Pension Contributions)	£128,932	£130,263

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

The average FTE of the year was 4.5 FTE (4.51 FTE in March 2022).

3. Trustees' remuneration, benefits and expenses

The trustees received no remuneration or expenses in the year. A number of trustees are also befrienders and can claim expenses relevant to those activities.

4. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

5. Independent examination and accountancy services

During the period, the cost of the examination and accountancy services was £200.

6. Annual commitments under operating leases

The organisation leases one room in 43 Bromham Road, Bedford, MK40 2AA for office premises, the notice period being six months.

7. Glossary of terms

Restricted funds: These are funds given to the charity, subject to specific restrictions set by the donor, but still within the general objects of the charity.

8. The charity's policy on reserves

The charity aims to have reserves equivalent to three to six months' running costs. Against actual spend of circa £268k this year, the surplus to be carried over is circa £115k which, together with the current reserves of circa £70k, comfortably meets the organisation's criteria. Within the reserves, there are provisions of £4.5k against closure costs, £24.5k against redundancy payments and £41k against running costs.

9. Funds position

The organisation operated at a surplus in 2022–23 of circa £79k, a much healthier trading position than that of 2021–22. The reserves remain the same (£70k), though there has been a reallocation, increasing the redundancies reserve and reducing the closure reserve by c. £15k. The changes in specific income and expenditure lines reflect the change in the organisation's activities as the impact of Covid-19 lessened.



**BEYOND
DETENTION**



Friendship and Support in Yarl's Wood & Beyond



www.beyonddetention.org



info@beyonddetention.org



**BEYOND
DETENTION** 

Beyond Detention

England & Wales - Charity number 1143160

Accounts



Company number 07652500, Charity number 1143160

**Financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2022**

Page	Contents
1–2	Directors' (trustees') annual report
3	Independent examiner's report
4	Statement of financial activities (including the income and expenditure account)
5	Balance sheet
6	Grants and Donations
7–8	Notes to the accounts

Beyond Detention

Directors' report (incorporating the Trustees' Annual Report)

for the year ended 31 March 2022

The trustees, who are also Directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Name Beyond Detention

Registered charity number 1143160

Registered company number 07652500

Principal address

43 Bromham Road
Bedford
MK40 2AA

Directors (Trustees)

Jivan Dempsey
Sarah Grahame
Eleanor Hitchman (Joined September 2021)
Kristen Hope Burchill (Joined September 2021)
Angela Huddart
Catherine Kirk (Joined September 2021) – Vice-Chair
Robina Pelham Burn – Chair
Stella Shyanguya
Isabelle Sykes (resigned March 2022)

Independent examiner

Rob Baxter
Retired Life Member, Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

Governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and registered with the Charity Commission. From April to October 2021 it operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated 3 May 2011. These were amended on 2 Nov 2021 and again on 12 March 2022 to allow the charity to support people post-detention as well as inside Yarl's Wood IRC. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £10.

Trustees are appointed on the basis of the skills and expertise they can contribute, their commitment to the aims of the organisation, and their willingness to devote their time and talents to the cause. All trustees are appointed by a vote at trustees' meetings.

The trustees of Beyond Detention have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit when making decisions about the charity's activities and when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Aims and objectives

The charity's objectives ("objects") are specifically restricted to the charitable relief of those detained in, and who have left, Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre.

Beyond Detention provides emotional and practical support to people detained in Yarl's Wood IRC and post-detention, in the community.

Funds held for third parties

No funds are held for third parties.

Exemptions

The trustees have taken advantage of the exemptions available to small companies, including the audit exemption (see statement in inspection report).

Responsibilities of the trustees

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the year and of the surplus or deficiency for the year then ended.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to: select suitable accounting policies, as described on pages 8–9, and then apply them on a consistent basis, making judgements and estimates that are prudent and reasonable. The members of the committee must also prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity, and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed:

Date: 1 November 2022

Robina Pelham Burn, Chair

Statement of financial activities
Income and expenditure account for the year ended
31 March 2022

2020-21		Unrestricted	2021-22	
Total		Funds	Restricted	Total
Funds		£	Funds	Funds
£		£	£	£
	Incoming Resources			
236,539.63	Grants and Donations	105,575.72	57,782.17	163,357.89
28.30	Bank Interest	7.34		7.34
236,567.93	Total Incoming Resources	105,583.06	57,782.17	163,365.23
	Resources Expended			
108,439.16	Wages, NI and Pensions	110,725.55	18,206.02	128,931.57
15,178.16	Redundancy Costs	0.00		0.00
560.00	Personnel/DBS Costs	388.00		388.00
14,385.95	Office Expenses	4,089.33		4,089.33
6,446.00	Rent and Rates	7,032.00		7,032.00
0.00	Consulting and Evaluation	5,958.95		5,958.95
16,142.00	Covid-19 Expenses	808.97		808.97
7,852.59	Detainee Support	1,203.37	5,074.14	6,277.51
0.00	Post-detention Support	9,514.28	19,310.47	28,824.75
800.00	Grants	0.00		0.00
26.72	Volunteer Expenses	134.25		134.25
1,504.25	Training	1,638.79		1,638.79
420.19	Insurance	430.32		430.32
4,203.49	Building Capabilities	0.00		0.00
993.00	Professional Fees	4,201.00		4,201.00
0.00	Staff Supervision	1,180.00		1,180.00
176,951.51	Total Resources Expended	147,304.81	42,590.63	189,895.44
59,616.42	Net Income/(-) expenditure	-41,721.75	15,191.54	-26,530.21
72,532.39	Total Funds brought forward	132,148.81		132,148.81
132,148.81	Total Funds carried forward	90,427.06	15,191.54	105,618.60

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022

2020–21		2021–22
£		£
	Current Assets	
173,492.74	Bank	109,231.43
1,524.19	Accounts Receivable	0.00
175,016.93	Total Current Assets	109,231.43
	Current Liabilities	
4,918.12	Accounts Payable	1,387.38
-545.00	Accruals	0.00
38,495.00	Income in Advance	0.00
0.00	NIC Payable	1,354.05
0.00	PAYE Payable	871.40
42,868.12	Total Current Liabilities	3,612.83
132,148.81	Net Current Assets	105,618.60
	The funds of the Charity	
62,148.81	Unrestricted Income Funds	20,427.06
0.00	Restricted Income Funds	15,191.54
20,000.00	Provision – Closure Costs	4,500.00
40,000.00	Provision – Running Costs	41,000.00
10,000.00	Provision – Redundancies	24,500.00
132,148.81	Total Funds	105,618.60

The trustees declare that they have approved the accounts above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed

Date: 1 November 2022

Robina Pelham Burn, Chair

Grants & Donations 2021–22

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Big Lottery (Additional 10% payment) Jun–Aug 21	38,495.00		38,495.00
House of Industry		2,132.17	2,132.17
Harpur Trust	17,000.00	17,000.00	34,000.00
Sebba Trust	5,000.00	38,650.00	43,650.00
Bromley Trust	15,000.00		15,000.00
Lloyds Bank Foundation	25,000.00		25,000.00
Other Revenue	1,259.14		1,259.14
Other Donations	1,265.34		1,265.34
Online Donations	2,556.24		2,556.24
Interest Income	7.34		7.34
Total	105,583.06	57,782.17	163,365.23

Beyond Detention
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2022

1. Accounting policies

Basis of the preparation of the accounts

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities - Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP revised 2005), the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

Incoming resources

All material incoming resources have been included on a receivable basis – i.e. they are included if the date receivable falls within the period covered by these accounts.

Pension costs

As from January 2017 the charity began a defined contribution pension scheme with the National Employment Savings Trust. All appropriate costs are allocated in these accounts.

Resources expended

These have been analysed using a classification appropriate to the activities of the organisation.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost or valuation, less estimated residual value, of all tangible fixed assets over their expected useful lives on a straight-line basis.

2. Staff costs and numbers

	2021	2022
Wages (inc NI & Pension Contributions)	£108,439	£128,932

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

The average number of staff was 4.5 FTE (4.57 FTE in April 2021 and 4.51 FTE in March 2022).

Beyond Detention
Notes to the accounts (continued)
for the year ended 31 March 2022

3. Trustees' remuneration, benefits and expenses

The trustees received no remuneration or expenses in the year. A number of trustees are also befrienders and can claim expenses relevant to those activities.

4. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

5. Independent examination and accountancy services

During the period, the cost of the examination and accountancy services was £180.

6. Annual commitments under operating leases

The organisation leases one room in 43 Bromham Road, Bedford, MK40 2AA for office premises, the notice period being six months.

7. Glossary of Terms

Restricted funds: These are funds given to the charity, subject to specific restrictions set by the donor, but still within the general objects of the charity.

8. The charity's policy on reserves

The charity aims to have reserves equivalent up to six months running costs. Against actual spend of circa £189k this year, the surplus to be carried over is circa £35k which, together with the current reserves of circa £70k, meets the organisation's criteria. Within the reserves, there are provisions of £4.5k against closure costs, £24.5k against redundancy payments and £41k against running costs.

9. Funds position

The impact of Covid-19 has had a major impact on the Beyond Detention accounts over the last two years. Because of this, comparisons between specific income and expenditure lines between the years do not have much meaning. However, it must be acknowledged that the organisation operated at a loss in 2021–22 of circa £27k. This may be due to one-off, specific expenditure within the year, but this is a position which is not sustainable.

Beyond Detention

England & Wales - Charity number 1143160

Accounts

YARL'S WOOD BEFRIENDERS

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2021**



Registered charity number 1143160
Registered company number 07652500

GENERAL INFORMATION

FULL NAME Yarl's Wood Befrienders (also known as YWB)
CHARITY NUMBER 1143160
COMPANY NUMBER 07652500
PRINCIPAL ADDRESS 43 Bromham Road, Bedford, MK40 2AA

TRUSTEES
Belal Bunian – Treasurer (appointed July 2020)
Barbara Conridge – Chair (resigned November 2020)
Jivan Dempsey (appointed November 2020)
Sarah Grahame – Chair (from November 2020)
Angela Huddart
Joan McDowall (resigned August 2020)
Pauline Panter (resigned July 2020)
Robina Pelham Burn
Stella Shyanguya (appointed November 2020)
Isabelle Sykes (appointed November 2020)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER Rob Baxter, Retired Life Member, Chartered Institute of Public,
Finance and Accountancy

BANKERS
HSBC
12 Allhallows
Bedford
MK40 1LJ

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees, who are Directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and income and expenditure accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021.

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and registered with the Charity Commission. In 2020–21 it operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated 3 May 2011. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £10.

Trustees are appointed on the basis of the skills and expertise they can contribute, their commitment to the aims of the organisation, and their willingness to devote their time and talents to the cause. All Trustees are appointed by a vote at Trustees' meetings.

The Trustees of Yarl's Wood Befrienders (YWB) have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit when making decisions about the charity's activities and when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

In 2020–21, the charity's objectives were specifically restricted to the charitable relief of those detained in, or leaving, Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre (YWIRC).

CORE ACTIVITIES

1. To recruit, train and support a volunteer force.
2. To research, initiate and facilitate one-to-one befriending between volunteers and people detained within YWIRC and in the community, post-detention.
3. To plan and deliver activities within YWIRC for the people detained there, including weekly face-to-face drop-in workshops and events to tie in with public holidays and religious festivals.
4. To support, practically and emotionally, the welfare and mental well-being of people detained in YWIRC and as they leave.
5. To liaise with the management of YWIRC about the charity's security and activities.
6. To network and lesson-share with other organisations who work in the detention estate in the UK to build a wider partnership, benefit from lessons learnt and share best practices of supporting people in detention and those released from detention.
7. To research services and refer people to other organisations who may be better placed than Yarl's Wood Befrienders to service their needs.
8. To run online courses to rebuild confidence and restore dignity for people post-detention.
9. To provide access to technology and data to support digital inclusion and reduce isolation for people after detention.

10. To raise awareness and broaden understanding in Bedford and the UK of the impact of immigration detention and reduce hostility towards people who are navigating the UK's immigration system.

VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers are at the heart of our organisation and are involved in every area of our work. In 2020–21, they provided practical and emotional support to people inside Yarl's Wood IRC through one-to-one befriending and group drop-in sessions; they supported people remotely, by telephone, listening to their needs and directing them to sources of help in their area; they helped to create a Digital Device Bank, upcycling and renovating digital devices for redistribution to people living in the community post-detention; and they helped to establish our new online courses.

In 2020–21 we expanded our volunteer base to 67 volunteers with 27 languages. Our information sessions in 2020–21 were attended by 39 people, with 26 attending the subsequent training day and 12 people joining us as volunteers.

PEOPLE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE OF IMMIGRATION DETENTION

Recognising the need for the charity to better reflect those we work with, in 2020–21 we recruited more people with lived experience to our board, to our staff and to our body of volunteers. This is something we continue to work on.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Covid-19

For more than eighteen years, the charity's sole activity was to support women and families held within Yarl's Wood IRC. In March 2020 YWIRC closed to visitors for much of the year. In response, we reacted creatively to the changes brought about by the pandemic and to the frequent changes in Home Office and Serco policy, and we diversified. We began to give remote support to people who had been released from detention, which opened our eyes to the challenges of life after detention as people wait for settled status, and, for the first time, we supported men as well as women.

When it was suggested that Yarl's Wood IRC might become a men-only centre, we included a session at our annual conference to ensure that our volunteers understood the issues faced by vulnerable men. We also provided training for staff and volunteers to ensure we were trauma-informed, and rewrote our safeguarding policy and code of conduct in response to the expansion of our activities.

Our diversification brought us closer to the other organisations that work in the detention estate and we began to meet weekly with coordinators from IRC visitor groups around the country. We shared information about the detention estate in general, as well as individual IRCs. Staff received training on: providing suicide support, both face-to-face and remotely;

safeguarding; understanding, recognising and reporting human trafficking; remote telephone befriending; post-detention support; and on the changes to our legal system that, among other things, allow prisons to hold people under immigration powers. Members of staff then ran training sessions for volunteers to pass on what they had learnt.

It was a challenging time, but it also strengthened us as an organisation, leading us to rethink what we do and how we do it, to listen more closely to those with lived experience of immigration detention, and to widen our offering.

Inside Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre

Held under lock and key, people in immigration detention feel criminalised and their mental health suffers. This is exacerbated by their being in limbo, with no idea of how long they will be held and whether they will be deported. When Covid-19 struck, Yarl's Wood IRC closed to visitors and all but emptied, leaving those women who remained at the centre in an almost deserted setting.

For those women who were still in the IRC, we continued to provide befriending support by phone; we also sent in clothes, pamper packs and art packs. By keeping in touch and supporting them in practical ways whenever possible, our volunteers played a crucial role in reminding the women that they had not been forgotten by the outside world. In June 2020 we were able to hold an event in the centre for Refugee Week, using the Rocket Man video produced by the Iranian refugee Majid Adin to stimulate discussion. Unfortunately, we were unable to visit the centre again until October 2020, when we were able to visit five times before the centre again locked down due to Covid outbreaks.

From August to October the number of people crossing the Channel by boat increased exponentially and YWIRC was turned, unofficially, into a short-term holding facility (STHF) for men. More than 1,700 men were processed at the centre amid chaotic scenes. We set up a Freephone line and disseminated information at the STHF about the organisations in the UK that could help the new arrivals.

To promote our befriending service and to help people navigate the multiple challenges of arriving in the UK, including, for example, the importance of legal advice, we developed an animated video and leaflet to be distributed to new arrivals. This was shared with partner organisations operating in other detention centres, such as the Jesuit Refugee Service in Penally, Wales, and Samphire at Napier Barracks in Kent.

In December 2020 we were told that the Home Office was setting up 200 portakabins in the grounds of YWIRC to provide emergency initial accommodation for 200 men. To prepare for this, we liaised with the NGOs working at the time in Penally and at Napier Barracks and brought together five charities in Bedford and London to provide a range of services that included counselling, clothes and boots, ESOL lessons (English for Speakers of Other Languages), bike rental, boxing and football training to complement our own provision. When in March the Home Office did a U-turn and dismantled the 200 portakabins, we had

established strong relationships with organisations in and around Bedford and built a solid footing for future collaboration.

Post-detention support

As YWIRC emptied, we diversified our provision to give remote support to people released from detention to 40 locations in the UK, many of whom had no access to digital technology to stay connected to the outside world and no one to turn to for support.

The staff and volunteers of the charity had to learn how to provide support remotely, and how to deal over the phone with reports of suicidal thoughts and desperate recollections of violence and rape from people with no support beyond phone calls from their Befriender. In each location, Befrienders, with the help of one of our coordinators, would work to source accommodation, clothing, food banks, furniture, baby items, physical and mental healthcare and Covid test kits. Volunteers also referred the person they were befriending to other national charities that might be able to help, such as ASAN (the Asylum Support Advice Network), Migrant Help, Refugee Action, Medical Justice, the Scottish Refugee Council, the Samaritans and Unseen, and to local community initiatives in their location, such as Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network and Manchester Refugee Support Network.

Working with the Bedford-based King's Arms Project, we set up an emergency accommodation facility for women who had been forced into inappropriate accommodation and we supported these women for nine months until they were able to find alternative safe accommodation.

In 2020–21 we provided 156 Covid support grants and vouchers: 84 cash grants and 72 supermarket vouchers. We also provided 39 £50 Tesco vouchers to people living in the community post-detention to spend at Christmas.

100% of people we surveyed said receiving supermarket vouchers helped them to cope with the challenges of isolation.

100% of people we surveyed said receiving supermarket vouchers helped them cope during lockdown.

"It makes a big, big difference, I really appreciate it without you I would be on a different planet, no one else helps, you make a big, big difference. Thank you so much."

"I feel like crying, such a relief to have some money, god bless you, thank you so much."

"[It] helped me in every possible way, it is like a million dollars."

"I would not be able to cope without it, it means everything to me, I am very appreciative."

"Thank you very much for all your help to us. This can make us survive and make our Christmas a bit meaningful for we have food to eat especially for this kind of occasion."

Praying that God will bring back to you all the blessings that you shared to others. Thank you sooo much and take care. God bless you and all the Befrienders people."

With a grant from Freedom from Torture, we were able to support 13 people with grants of £40. These are some of the responses:

"I buy chicken and fish with my money, I only get tinned goods from the food bank, I need to get rice and flour, potatoes, normally can't afford anything like this, soap, shaving cream and stuff like that. Certain little things that I can't afford."

"My body is so weary, not eating the way I need to be eating, so when I get these little bits of money, I'm so grateful, I put chicken and fish in the freezer so I can have it when I need it."

Phone credit and digital inclusion

Being able to phone loved ones, lawyers and other key people, to access services and to be connected to the outside world was more important than ever during the pandemic. In 2020–21, we provided 232 £10 phone credit vouchers, 72 in detention and 160 post-detention. Having assessed people's needs and the most cost-efficient option, we supplied phone contracts to 11 people who were living in the community post-detention to give them unlimited access to data and we provided one person with a broadband contract.

In 2020–21, we provided 27 digital devices to people living in the community post-detention: 3 smartphones; 9 laptops/notebooks; 4 Facebook portals; 9 tablets; 2 wi-fi routers.

"The phone and the internet is my only link with the outside world, it means I can speak to people. The laptop is a lifeline and the writing course is a connection with people with a shared interest. You guys are a lifeline."

As we supported people post-detention, it became clear that digital exclusion was a major problem. Even if people had smartphones, they often had no data or access to wi-fi to enable them to communicate with the outside world, and many had no devices at all.

To combat this, we set up a digital inclusion programme, working with a local school, whose students volunteered to create a Digital Device Bank, upcycling and renovating donated devices so that they could be redistributed to the people we support. The students also raised awareness among peers, teachers, support staff and alumni about the plight of people who suffer detention and debunked some of the myths surrounding immigration detention.

Online courses

Another post-detention programme was the creation of remote courses to empower people released into the community. People waiting for settled status are in a state of limbo until the Home Office decides their case, unable to work or enrol as students. This, coupled with

a lack of fitness, poor English-language skills and isolation, is a significant cause of depression and poor mental health.

During our six-month pilot in 2020–21, we offered five different courses run by trained professionals in Art Therapy, Creative Writing, Fitness for Men, Fitness for Women, and Practical ESOL. We supported 47 people on these courses with digital devices, technical support and materials such as art notepads, stationery and sports equipment. Having observed the benefits of the peer-to-peer support the courses generated, we set up a Friendship Group for those who have experienced immigration detention in the UK. The online courses restored a sense of dignity and self-respect to participants and integrated the participants into a community with others where they could find human interaction and laughter.

73% of people surveyed found their course very useful.

90% of people surveyed said the classes helped them to cope with their current situation.

100% enjoyed their class.

“It’s really good for my mental health. Can go home and relax, I’m knackered now! It’s really beneficial for me. I always sleep better after this.”

“It’s very practical to learn new skills, I think it will support me a great deal in future professional life and as I’m not mentally doing really well, this course will help me divert my attention into something productive.”

“It’s good for my mental health and my body and my mind and everything. I really like it.”

“For me it’s very important I improve my English to interact with school for my daughters, talk to the GP and integrate into society. Highly important.”

Other befriending statistics and feedback

- In 2020–21, we provided one-to-one-befriending to 75 people, 15 in detention and 60 post-detention.
- We supported a total of 84 people with clothing, 61 in detention and 23 post-detention.
- We provided a total of 563 items of clothing, 439 in detention and 124 post-detention. Our most requested items were footwear, jackets and jeans.
- We provided 159 care packs to people in detention, comprising craft activities, self-care items and hats, gloves and scarf sets.

100% of people we surveyed said receiving clothing made them feel more supported and cared for.

75% of people we surveyed said receiving clothing improved their self-esteem.

“I love you all Befrienders, I never have boots like this, they are so good, you are all so nice, you make me so happy.”

87% of people surveyed said phone calls from their Befriender made them feel less lonely and isolated.

"She is the only one who understands what I'm going through. She was my backbone in Yarl's Wood for 8 months, she is truly wonderful."

83% of people surveyed said phone calls from their Befriender improved their self-esteem and emotional well-being.

"My Befriender, she is so lovely. Before I had no confidence in myself and she makes me feel so good about myself."

83% of people surveyed said phone calls from their Befriender helped them to cope with the current situation.

"People asking me how am I surviving, it's not the mental doctors who keep me sane, it's the human beings who are there for me ... Befrienders, who keep me sane."

Raising awareness

In 2020, changes to the immigration system, changes within YWIRC and the drafting of the New Immigration Plan made raising awareness a priority for the charity. We had more contact with policy makers, lobbying local MP Richard Fuller and attending meetings with the Immigration Minister Chris Phelps and two other MPs, and we provided content and interviews for BBC Look East, Channel 4, ITN, *Bedford Independent* and freelance journalists.

We also supported academics from the University of Oxford, Goldsmith's University and the University of Westminster, helping them to gather evidence of the impact of detention by putting them in touch with people with lived experience of immigration detention.

Rebranding and new website

Having extended our remit from working solely within YWIRC to also supporting people outside it, we decided to rebrand so that our name reflected our new arc of care. Work began on a new website that would reflect our extended remit, focus more on the people we work with and less on the charity itself, and serve as a platform from which people in detention could tell their stories and make their voices heard.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income and expenditure summary

In 2020–21, incoming resources were £236,568 (2020: £148,369) and resources expended were £176,952 (2020: £154,246), giving a net income of £59,616 (2020: -£5,878). Funds carried forward at 31 March 2021 totalled £132,149 (2020: £72,532).

Funding

The charity received grants and donations totalling £236,568, of which £193,733 were

unrestricted funds and £42,835 were restricted funds. Principal funding sources were the Big Lottery, the Gale Family Trust, the Bromley Trust, the Sebba Trust, the Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation, the House of Industry and CAF.

Reserves policy statement

The charity aims to hold reserves equivalent to six months' running costs. Against an actual spend of circa £177k in 2020–21, the reserves carried forward of circa £132k more than meet the organisation's criteria.

Within the reserves there are provisions of £20,000 against closure costs, £10,000 against redundancy costs and £40,000 against running costs.

RISK ANALYSIS

Never has it been more difficult to predict government policy on detention. There is uncertainty about which immigration removal centres will be kept open and which will close, and about the functions of the centres. In October 2021, Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre, which is the focus of the charity's activities, became a holding facility primarily for men, with a small number of women. The future role of the IRC – whether it will be a long-term holding facility or a short-term one – has not been confirmed.

After the Windrush scandal and the advent of Covid, the numbers of women in YWIRC fell dramatically, and we had to act nimbly and creatively. As has been described above, this involved capitalising on any invitation to help the people held within the IRC, preparing for a predominantly male intake, and diversifying to support people outside YWIRC, post-detention, as well as within the IRC, in what we term our arc of care.

The principal risk facing the charity arises from the uncertainty surrounding immigration policy and practice in the UK and what the Home Office will do with YWIRC, though our diversification has to some extent offset that risk. Our current challenge, as YWIRC becomes a holding facility for men and we change how we befriend, is to retain our body of volunteers, who have worked primarily with women for the past twenty years; to recruit new volunteers, in particular more men and those with lived experience of immigration detention; and to continue to appeal to funders.

Financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021



Company number 07652500, Charity number 1143160

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3	Independent examiner's report
4	Statement of financial activities (including the income and expenditure account)
5	Balance sheet
6	Grants and Donations
7–8	Notes to the accounts

Yarl's Wood Befrienders
Directors' report (incorporating the Trustees' Annual Report)
for the year ended 31 March 2021

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Full Name Yarl's Wood Befrienders (YWB)

Registered charity number 1143160

Registered company number 07652500

Principal address

43 Bromham Road

Bedford

MK40 2AA

Directors (Trustees)

Belal Bunian – Treasurer (appointed July 2020)

Barbara Conridge (resigned November 2020)

Jivan Dempsey (appointed November 2020)

Sarah Grahame – acting Chair

Angela Huddart

Joan McDowall (resigned August 2020)

Pauline Panter (resigned July 2020)

Robina Pelham Burn

Stella Shyanguya (appointed November 2020)

Isabelle Sykes (appointed November 2020)

Independent examiner

Rob Baxter

Retired Life Member, Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

Governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and registered with the Charity Commission. It is operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated 3 May 2011. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £10.

Trustees are appointed on the basis of their commitment to the aims of the organisation and their willingness to devote both their time and talents to the cause. All trustees are appointed by a vote at Trustees' Meetings.

Yarl's Wood Befrienders (YWB) is completely reliant on its volunteer Befrienders, many of whom have full-time jobs or family responsibilities but somehow manage to find that extra time to support those held in or leaving Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre (YWIRC).

Aims and objectives

The charity's objects ("Objects") are specifically restricted to the charitable relief of those detained in, or leaving, Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre (YWIRC).

Funds held for third parties

No funds are held for third parties.

Exemptions

The trustees have taken advantage of the exemptions available to small companies, including the audit exemption (see statement in inspection report).

Responsibilities of the trustees

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the year and of the surplus or deficiency for the year then ended.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to: select suitable accounting policies, as described on pages 8–9, and then apply them on a consistent basis, making judgements and estimates that are prudent and reasonable. The members of the committee must also prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity, and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed: _____

Sarah Grahame, Chair

Date: _____

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Yarl's Wood Befrienders for the year ended 31 March 2021

I report on the accounts of the charity, which are set out on pages 4 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Signed:

Date: 10th September 2021

Rob Baxter, Independent Examiner

Retired Life Member, Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

Statement of financial activities
Income and expenditure account for the year ended
31 March 2021

2020		2021	2021	Total
Total		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Funds		Funds	Funds	Funds
£		£	£	£
	Incoming Resources			
147,958.00	Grants & Donations	193,704.98	42,834.65	236,539.63
111.52	Bank Interest	28.30		28.30
299.09	Fundraising Events	0.00		0.00
0.00	Building Capabilities	0.00		0.00
148,368.61	Total Incoming Resources	193,733.28	42,834.65	236,567.93
	Resources Expended			
102,872.31	Wages, NI & Pensions	94,939.16	13,500.00	108,439.16
0.00	Redundancy Costs	15,178.16		15,178.16
179.00	Personnel/DBS Costs	560.00		560.00
3,324.19	Office Expenses	4,858.70	9,527.25	14,385.95
7,032.00	Rent & rates	6,446.00		6,446.00
1,574.01	Marketing & Publicity	0		0.00
0.00	Covid-19 Expenses	7,989.00	8,153.00	16,142.00
31,203.08	Detainee Support	398.19	7,454.40	7,852.59
0.00	Grants	0.00	800.00	800.00
3,510.75	Volunteer expenses	26.72		26.72
2,712.49	Training	1,504.25		1,504.25
415.39	Insurance	420.19		420.19
0.00	Building Capabilities	803.49	3,400.00	4,203.49
1,423.00	Professional Fees	993.00		993.00
0.00	Provision – Closure costs	0.00		0.00
154,246.22	Total Resources Expended	134,116.86	42,834.65	176,951.51
-5,877.61	Net Income/(-) expenditure	59,616.42	0.00	59,616.42
78,410.00	Total Funds brought forward	72,532.39	0.00	72,532.39
72,532.39	Total Funds carried forward	132,148.81	0.00	132,148.81

Grants and Donations 2020–21

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Big Lottery-Covid-19 – Ex-Detainee Support		32,500.00	32,500.00
House of Industry		4,981.65	4,981.65
Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation (BLCF)		4,553.00	4,553.00
Freedom From Torture		800.00	800.00
Big Lottery	142,507.00		142,507.00
Gale Family Trust officially	20,000.00		20,000.00
Bromley Trust	15,000.00		15,000.00
Sebba Trust	5,000.00		5,000.00
CAF	4,775.00		4,775.00
The Cathedral & Abbey Church of St Albans	1,000.00		1,000.00
Other donations	4,323.02		4,323.02
Online donations	1,099.96		1,099.96
Interest income	28.30		28.30
Total	193,733.28	42,834.65	236,567.93

Yarl's Wood Befrienders
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2021

1. Accounting policies

Basis of the preparation of the accounts

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP revised 2005), the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

Incoming resources

All material incoming resources have been included on a receivable basis – i.e. they are included if the date receivable falls within the period covered by these accounts.

Pension costs

As from January 2017 the charity began a defined contribution pension scheme with the National Employment Savings Trust. All appropriate costs are allocated in these accounts.

Resources expended

These have been analysed using a classification appropriate to the activities of the organisation.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost or valuation, less estimated residual value, of all tangible fixed assets over their expected useful lives on a straight-line basis.

2. Staff costs and numbers

	2021	2020
Wages (inc NI & Pension Contributions)	£108,439	£102,872

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

The average weekly number of employees during the year fell from 4.2 fte in March 2020 to 3.9fte in March 2021, which included a member of staff being furloughed, additional part time contractors and a maternity return.

3. Trustees' remuneration, benefits and expenses

The Trustees received no remuneration or expenses in the year. A number of trustees are also Befrienders and can claim expenses relevant to those activities.

**Notes to the accounts (continued)
for the year ended 31 March 2021**

4. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

5. Independent examination and accountancy services

During the period, the cost of the examination and accountancy services was £180.

6. Annual commitments under operating leases

The organisation leases one room in 43 Bromham Road, Bedford, MK40 2AA for office premises, the notice period being six months.

7. Glossary of terms

Restricted funds: These are funds given to the charity, subject to specific restrictions set by the donor, but still within the general objects of the charity.

8. The charity's policy on reserves

The charity aims to have reserves equivalent to six months' running costs. Against actual spend of circa £177k this year, the current reserves of circa £132k more than meets the organisation's criteria. Within the reserves, there are provisions of £20k against closure costs, £10k against redundancy payments and £40k against running costs.

9. Funds position

The impact of Covid19 has had a major impact on the Yarl's Wood Befrienders accounts in 2020–21. Because of this, comparisons between specific income and expenditure lines between 2020 and 2021 are largely meaningless. However, it is good news that the organisation operated at a profit of some £60k in 2020–21, with much of this surplus now being held as specific reserves.