

HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1149652

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	08186281
Registered	2012-11-07
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Asylum Aid 26 Westland Place London N1 7JH
Phone	020 3058 2020
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Website	www.helenbamber.org

Activities

Objects: 2.1 The Charity is established for the following purposes for the benefit of the Beneficiaries: 2.1.1 to relieve their conditions of need, hardship or distress; 2.1.2 to preserve and protect their physical and mental health; 2.1.3 to advance their education and training so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community; 2.1.4 to advance public education about the position of and issues relating to the Beneficiaries, including gross violations of human rights, torture, atrocities and other forms of human cruelty and their effect on persons who suffer them; 2.1.5 assisting them in such other exclusively charitable ways as the Charity determines from time to time. 2.2 In this Article 2, "Beneficiaries" means individuals who: 2.2.1 are seeking asylum or other forms of protection in the UK; 2.2.2 have already been granted refugee status, humanitarian protection or other forms of protection status by UK immigration authorities; 2.2.3 have insecure immigration status or are stateless; 2.2.4 are vulnerable by reason of their experience of torture, trafficking, hostilities, genocides or other atrocities or human cruelty, 2.2.5 are vulnerable to destitution, exploitation, abuse, trafficking or other forms of human cruelty including but not limited to those outside their country of origin; and 2.2.6 the dependants of those mentioned in Articles 2.2.1 to 2.2.5 above.

Activities: HBF is a human rights charity based in London, founded in 2005. Our specialist team of therapists, doctors and legal experts hold an international reputation for providing therapeutic care, medical consultation, legal protection and practical support to survivors of human rights violations. Previous Charity No: 1111048. All Accounts available on our website: <http://www.helenbamber.org/accounts/>.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£5,771,255	£4,823,253	£2,962,024	79
2023-12-31	£3,777,377	£3,469,378	£2,014,022	69
2022-12-31	£3,045,239	£2,623,546	£1,706,023	55
2021-12-31	£2,170,076	£2,077,130	£1,284,330	43
2020-12-31	£2,157,221	£1,821,120	£1,191,384	36

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Adam Epstein		2023-03-30
Bronwyn Friedlander		2025-12-11
Elizabeth Anne Mottershaw		2022-01-20
Janina Julia Kowalska		2018-04-05
John Scampion		2020-04-02
Lucy Siegle		2025-12-11
Mafusi Maime		2025-07-10
Nancy McCartney Ms		2020-09-17
Olivia Curno		2022-10-06
Phillippa Kaufmann		2025-12-11
Rehab Jameel		2025-07-10
Samantha Peter Ms		2020-04-01
Victoria Gray		2025-12-11

Accounts

HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION GROUP ANNUAL REPORT

Trustees Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

FOUNDER

Helen Bamber OBE (1925 — 2014)

HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION

CHARITY NUMBER 1149652

PRESIDENT

Emma Thompson DBE

HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION

COMPANY NUMBER 08186281

TRUSTEES OF HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION

Adam Epstein – *Chair of HBF*

Dan Colton (resigned in May 2024)

Elizabeth Mottershaw

John Scampion

Ian Watt

Nancy McCartney

Nina Kowalska

Olivia Curno

Patricia Chale (resigned in November 2024)

Samantha Peter

ASYLUM AID

CHARITY NUMBER 328729

ASYLUM AID

COMPANY NUMBER 02513874

REGISTERED OFFICE AND OPERATIONAL ADDRESS

26 Westland Place,

London

N1 7JH

TRUSTEES OF ASYLUM AID

Elizabeth Mottershaw – Chair

Sir Nicolas Bratza

Kat Lorenz

Yehia Nasr

Constantine Partasides

John Scampion – Treasurer

Ruth Tanner

AUDITOR

Sayer Vincent LLP

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors

110 Golden Lane

London

EC1Y 0TG

EXPERT BY EXPERIENCE

BOARD ADVISORS

Maime Mafusi

Rehab Jameel

BANKERS

Coutts & Co

440 The Strand

London

WC2R 0QS

MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVES 2024

Alison Pickup – *Executive Director of Asylum Aid*

Gareth Holmes – *Executive Director of Fundraising and Communications of HBF Group*

Katy Robjant – *Executive Director of Clinical and Counter-Trafficking of HBF (resigned October 2024)*

Kerry Smith – *Chief Executive Officer of HBF Group*

Thomas Smith – *Director of Finance and Governance of HBF Group*

2024 WAS A YEAR OF TRANSFORMATIONS AND MONUMENTAL GROWTH

CHANGING LIVES	
We provided life-saving support to 1,834 survivors across the HBF Group.	246 clients received legal representation from Asylum Aid
89% of clients recorded a clinically significant improvement in their PTSD symptoms, and 100% reported a clinically significant improvement in their depression symptoms	184 clients were given medical advice by our team of doctors
188 clients were supported by our counter-trafficking team, ensuring they were not re-exploited	269 clients built social connections and learnt vital skills through English classes, music groups, and employment workshops
81% of housing problems and threats of homelessness faced by clients were resolved within three months	91% of clients for whom we provided a medical legal report were granted a form of leave to remain in the UK
BUILDING PIVOTAL PARTNERSHIPS	CREATING BETTER SYSTEMS
We trained thousands of professionals to deliver trauma-informed support to survivors	We ensured that the Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Act 2024 is repealed
We completed the fifth year of our partnership with Young Roots, delivering therapeutic support to their young refugee clients	In response to our advocacy, the government announced that it would stop using hotels, the Bibby Stockholm and Napier barracks to accommodate people seeking asylum, and scrapped plans to open new accommodation in RAF Scampton
We delivered a route out of homelessness for survivors through our partnership with the Refugee and Migrant Forum of Essex and London (RAMFEL)	We ensured that the government introduces a new pilot under which newly granted refugees now have double the time to find housing and are less likely to become homeless – protecting them from further abuse and exploitation

INTRODUCTION TO THE HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION GROUP

Who we are

The Helen Bamber Foundation (HBF) and Asylum Aid have come together as the Helen Bamber Foundation Group to provide a significant lifeline for survivors who include at-risk refugees and asylum seekers at a critical time of need. In an increasingly complex global climate marked by ongoing conflicts and crises, this partnership amplifies our impact, enhancing our ability to provide evidence-based support to the most marginalised survivors. By doing so, we offer both hope and practical assistance to those who need it most. At the heart of our group structure is a shared mission: to ensure that those facing extreme vulnerability are safe, can recover, and have a future filled with dignity and hope.

The Helen Bamber Foundation provides direct support through our Model of Integrated Care (MoIC) which combines therapeutic, medical, casework and legal support, helping clients to recover from trauma. Asylum Aid focuses on serving and empowering asylum seekers with complex cases, particularly vulnerable children or stateless people, a legal status that leaves people invisible—unable to work, marry, study, or even open a bank account. Without documents or rights, they face a heightened risk of exploitation. Asylum Aid hosts The Migrants' Law Project, a specialist legal project that helps young people to secure family reunion for younger siblings, some who are toddlers, fleeing violence.

Our unique breadth of work gives us invaluable insights into asylum seekers' experiences, enabling us to better support the NHS, partner organisations, and frontline services. By sharing our expertise, we expand our reach, increase efficiency, and direct more resources to where they are needed most. This allows us to improve support, speed up recovery for survivors, and raise care standards across the sector through training for peer organisations and statutory services.

Understanding that an inclusive, supportive and just environment is fundamental for survivors to recover, we bring about positive systemic changes through policy advocacy and strategic legal work. Our advocacy work – whether policy recommendations, generating knowledge through research, or working closely with the media – is rooted firmly in the lived experiences of survivors, including our clients, and bearing witness to the adversities they have faced.

Together we are innovative, ambitious and compassionate.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

2024 has been a year of incredible growth and transformation for the HBF Group. With your generous support, we opened the Trauma Centre to our staff and 1,834 survivors, delivered life-saving care and rehabilitation in our bespoke, sector-leading clinical and community facilities, and began to expand our services to become a beacon of hope and best practice across the refugee, anti-trafficking and healthcare sectors. We are now poised to grow the scope and scale of our reach by 50%.

We are incredibly grateful to the community that has come together to make the Trauma Centre a reality – from the architects and designers who provided building designs free of charge, to the suppliers offering construction and refurbishment pro bono, to our generous funders and sponsors. Our President Emma Thompson has provided unwavering support throughout the journey. We would like to thank you all for your incredible support for the Centre, where thousands will gain the strength to fly for decades to come.

The Trauma Centre has enabled us to build capacity and confidence within the asylum and immigration sector to take on more complex cases, in response to the tremendous demand for services that we are witnessing across the UK. We have trained more than 1000 professionals in trauma-informed ways of working, ensuring that survivors beyond the ones we serve directly can receive the help they need.

Our partnerships continue to play a key role in the future, increasing our impact and reaching more survivors. In 2024 we have delivered mental health support to 142 children and young people through our partnership with Young Roots, and we have launched new partnerships with the British Red Cross and Hummingbird, embedding therapists within their services in Leicester, Derby and Brighton, expanding our national reach. Asylum Aid trained and developed new advisers with programmes such as the Justice First Fellowship – a grant that helped us recruit and train an aspiring solicitor. Our unique training programme for the training and supervision of legal advisers, funded through the Justice Together Initiative, meant that Immigration Advice Authority (IAA) Level 2 Advisers who work in underserved regions, including West Yorkshire, Devon, Cornwall, Manchester and Wales, could access best practice training that improves the impact they deliver for clients. As a Group, we are having greater external impact in the sector and we are continuing to collaborate with others to challenge the hostile system and policies.

In 2025, we were pleased to announce Alison Pickup as our new Chief Executive Officer. Alison, who was the Executive Director of Asylum Aid took over from Kerry Smith, who led the Group since 2018. During her four years at the helm of Asylum Aid, Alison has significantly grown its impact and led several legal challenges bringing about positive changes to the immigration and asylum systems. We are all incredibly grateful to Kerry for her leadership and look forward to continuing our growth with Alison as our new CEO.

Our achievements of 2024 are thanks to the determination and hard work of our dedicated team and volunteers. Thanks to their commitment to improving the lives of survivors, we have had outstanding impact, which we are proud to share in this report.

THE UK'S FIRST MAJOR TRAUMA CENTRE – A BEACON OF HOPE FOR SURVIVORS

Located in the heart of London, the HBF Group's Trauma Centre is a calm, welcoming and safe space for hundreds of survivors of trafficking and torture to begin their journey towards recovery. Comprising nearly 11,000 sq. ft across two floors, it has 13 large, private and soundproofed therapy and legal consultation rooms, and four doctors' rooms where survivors who are suffering from illness and injuries can be examined and supported. Our clients' insights have been invaluable in designing an environment that is truly inclusive.

Clients visiting the Trauma Centre for the first time shared their appreciation of the space. One person said: *"I feel very humbled that so much was invested to give us a place that feels like home."* Clients have expressed how the decor brings a sense of calm, describing it as *"beautiful"*, *"modern"*, and *"feels like nature"*. These reflections underscore how the Centre promotes a comforting, dignified and welcoming environment for healing and recovery.



WE ARE DRIVEN BY LIVED EXPERIENCE VOICES

Helen Bamber Foundation's services and advocacy are driven by the experiences of the many survivors with whom we work. In 2024, our clients continued to play a fundamental role in shaping our services, best practices and advocacy.

Survivors shaped our services in pivotal ways in 2024, their invaluable lived experience and expertise helped inform and improve our support. Survivors in our Client Voices Forum conducted a thorough review of all our services, providing insights and suggestions to our senior leadership team, shaping the future of our service and our new three-year strategy. Our two lived-experience Board Observers – recruited to provide advice and expertise to HBF's Board of Trustees – provided invaluable insight and ensured that the perspectives of survivors are shaping HBF's decision-making at every level of the organisation.

Our Trauma Centre had client voices at the heart of its design. Lighting, space, and sound were all significantly improved through consultation with survivors. It was decided that each of the consultation and clinical rooms should be named after migratory birds, in honour of survivors' journeys and in celebration of the powerful symbol of freedom birds represent.

A group of Helen Bamber Foundation clients, Ambassadors for Change, continued their impactful campaign for safe housing. The group produced an inspiring [advocacy video](#), illustrating the detrimental impact of unsafe asylum accommodation on the mental health and well-being of vulnerable refugees in the UK, which has led to widespread calls for secure housing for everyone seeking protection in the UK.



Still from the Ambassadors For Change advocacy video, showing the positive impact of reaching safety and finding community.

PART I: WE TRANSFORMED LIVES

HBF Group is proud to provide expert services to some of the most vulnerable people seeking protection in the UK. Under Helen Bamber Foundation, we deliver a pioneering Model of Integrated Care (MoIC), in which we provide six specialist services:



The MoIC's goal is to build lasting and sustained recovery for all our clients. We know that rehabilitation from extreme human cruelty is a complex, non-linear journey, so we stand with our clients for as long as it takes. In a world of rising conflict, every year we get many more referrals than we can accept due to limited capacity. To ensure we support those at most need, we prioritise referrals of survivors at the sharpest edge of marginalisation.

In 2024, we were forced to turn away 80% of the referrals we received, survivors with nowhere else to turn. In response to this unprecedented surge in demand, the Trauma Centre will allow us to grow our services, so more survivors are protected from re-trafficking and exploitation.

We measure the success and effectiveness of HBF's MoIC services, to ensure our clients receive the best possible care, using the Clinical Outcomes in Routine Evaluation (CORE) tool plus a range of clinical tools and surveys. In 2024, despite the ongoing hostile environment and policies impacting the lives of survivors, **89% recorded a clinically significant improvement in their PTSD symptoms, and 100% reported a clinically significant improvement in their depression symptoms.**

Asylum Aid provides legal representation and advice to protect people seeking safety in the UK, particularly at-risk children and stateless people, from further persecution and harm. In 2024, Asylum Aid took on 93 new clients – each with a complex case, requiring the highest quality of legal support. **Thanks to the tireless work of our team, 50 clients gained protection and over 100 children and young people received vital legal representation.** Through The Migrants' Law Project, we help young people fleeing violence reunite with their families through safe and legal routes. This year we reunited 6 families who would otherwise be forced to take risky migration routes, including the Sahara, Mediterranean and Channel routes. A full account of Asylum Aid's work is in its annual report. For a summary of their direct provision, see page 18 of this report.

WE DELIVERED LIFE-SAVING THERAPEUTIC CARE



Faiz, a client from Iran, cautiously started stabilisation therapy with our team. He experienced child bereavement during his migration journey to the UK and lived with palpable grief. He struggled with intense nightmares, dissociation, panic attacks and depression. Faiz is neurodivergent, which amplified his sensitivity to sensory stimuli and led to marked isolation. Therapy sessions had to be adapted (dimming lights, booking appointments for quiet periods of the day, using visual cues) and carefully paced.

Our expert team spent extensive time exploring his perception of neurodivergence and the cultural attitudes attached to it. He called himself 'weak' or 'broken'. Initially, Faiz was cautious of therapy and feared self-disclosure (to the extent that he declined to work with an interpreter). Over approximately 10 sessions, he was able to understand his trauma symptoms, use adapted grounding strategies to cope, shift towards a less negative position about living with neurodiversity, and make adaptations to alleviate sensory stressors in the family home. He also feels safer in the therapy room now. *"I know talking helps me," he says. "I take it out of my mind."*

Photos and names in the case studies included in this report have been changed to protect clients' privacy.

Faiz is among the 425 clients supported by the therapy team in 2024. The fluctuating socio-political climate caused deep distress for our clients, driving a sharp rise in safeguarding needs. Our therapists responded by dedicating more time and care to survivors, providing life-saving support through growing uncertainty and fear. Our team provided medical evidence and advocated with the NHS for better services that meet a client's particular and changing needs.

- In 2024, among MoIC clients, **67** clients started stabilisation therapy, focusing on symptom management, such as flashbacks, intrusive thoughts, and panic attacks
- **83** clients started Trauma-Focused therapy, including trauma-focused Cognitive Behavioural Therapy and Narrative Exposure Therapy

WE HELPED SURVIVORS NAVIGATE A COMPLEX ASYLUM SYSTEM

Lucy, a survivor of trafficking, was lured to the UK from Nigeria more than a decade ago as a domestic worker. She was horrifically abused and exploited by her former employers and still fears they will find her if she returns to Nigeria. After a police tip off provided Lucy with an opportunity to escape, she claimed asylum, but her legal case has been complex, with input from many different lawyers on different matters. She relived her trauma multiple times as she has repeatedly had to disclose her past as part of her ongoing immigration and asylum case. Lucy's trauma symptoms intensified as she endured intrusive thoughts, painful flashbacks and paralysing fear.

Lucy was referred to us in 2022. Our legal protection, counter-trafficking and therapeutic teams have since collaborated to provide her with holistic support. We worked with her lawyers to support her in submitting applications for asylum and leave to remain as a survivor of trafficking and to claim compensation for being wrongly detained. She has now been granted permission to stay in the UK as a confirmed victim of trafficking (VTS leave to remain). It comes as a huge relief for Lucy as this is her first grant of leave to remain in the country since claiming asylum 10 years ago.



Lucy is among the 504 survivors to whom we provided legal protection services in 2024. The capacity and availability of high-quality legal aid solicitors to take on such complex cases remained a key challenge for survivors in 2024. An increased number of our clients appealed a Home Office decision. Lack of appropriate legal support remains a huge vulnerability factor for survivors, who often share they feel forced into exploitative work and unmanageable debt to pay for basic legal help. The government's introduction of e-visas and ending of biometric residence permits added further strain to the limited capacity of the legal protection team within our organisation and the wider immigration and asylum sector. Despite these challenges, our legal protection team achieved life changing results for our clients, ensuring that they secured permission to stay in the UK and start rebuilding their lives.

- **54** of our MoIC clients received legal protection such as refugee status, humanitarian protection, or limited leave to remain
- **118** medico-legal reports, which document the long-term physical and psychological impact of traumatic experiences and are used as evidence for the more complex requests for international protection in the UK, were completed
- **91%** of clients for whom we provided a medico-legal report in 2023 (and where there is a known outcome) were granted a form of leave to remain in the UK in 2024
- **22** suitability assessments were provided to survivors accommodated at large sites such as RAF Wethersfield and Bibby Stockholm barge (now closed)

OUR TEAM OF DOCTORS PROVIDED VITAL MEDICAL ADVICE

When Nalini was referred to the Helen Bamber Foundation, she was suffering from horrific injuries at the hands of violent traffickers. After years of sexual abuse while being kept in appalling conditions, Nalini had severe respiratory disease, multiple untreated broken bones, and shocking injuries to her reproductive organs. Nalini had tried to go to her GP for treatment, but her PTSD prevented her from talking about her experiences, and she couldn't access the care she so desperately needed. Our Medical Advisory team worked with Nalini to help her feel safe talking about her trauma, and explain her injuries. We continued to work with Nalini and her GP to ensure that she could access the medical care she needed to begin rebuilding her life. Without our support Nalini would not have been able to access this lifesaving healthcare.



Photo of a Doctor's Room in the HBF Group Trauma Centre

Survivors like Nalini face innumerable barriers to vital healthcare. In 2024 we helped our clients overcome difficulty in talking about past experiences due to debilitating shame and trauma; a severe lack of interpreters in NHS appointments; inability to access online portals due to digital illiteracy, and many more challenges. Untreated medical needs impede survivors' ability to fully recover from trauma including neurological and respiratory disorder, as well as fractures, wounds and injuries to sexual and reproductive organs, with the most vulnerable people suffering in silence. Our team of doctors and volunteers advocate on behalf of our clients, requesting the use of interpreters and longer appointments, and for a trauma-informed approach. This ensures that survivors feel safe during medical examinations and are able to fully understand their condition and treatment options.

- **184** clients were supported to access desperately needed care by our medical advisory team in 2024
- **62** medical needs assessments were conducted for clients

WE PREVENTED HOMELESSNESS AND ENSURED SURVIVORS CAN ACCESS ASYLUM SUPPORT



“Because in the UK I have no friends, no relatives, and because of the language barrier, I don’t know what to do. Fortunately, you are there to help me.”

Agnesa, a survivor of human trafficking and sexual slavery, was referred to us after she had been identified by the emergency services as being street homeless. She had been sleeping on the street for many months, isolated, vulnerable, and at severe risk of exploitation from opportunistic criminals.

As soon as we identified the risk she was under, our Housing and Welfare team worked tirelessly to ensure that Agnesa could access safe accommodation. Initially, Agnesa was placed in a shared room in an asylum hotel. The conditions of the room were appalling, and given her complex trauma, she did not feel safe sharing a room with others. We worked together with a solicitor to challenge the suitability of this accommodation, and Agnesa was moved to a flat where she could live in safety and security.

Safe and secure housing is absolutely vital in helping survivors gain the confidence and stability to engage in community and build the strength to thrive. Since living in her new flat, Agnesa has become a regular face at the Helen Bamber Foundation’s community group and now feels safe from revictimisation.



Agnesa is one of many survivors who received critical support from our Housing and Welfare team to stay off the streets and access safe housing. The team **prevented 59 clients from becoming homeless in 2024**, a vital step in protecting vulnerable survivors from further harm.

- **380** clients accessed financial and housing support thanks to our Housing and Welfare team in 2024
- We helped **100** people in hotel accommodation access vital support: bank vouchers, school uniforms for their children, and emergency relief
- We made **14,181** interactions with, or on behalf of, our clients. This included contact with solicitors, the Home Office, and local authorities, helping survivors to navigate complex bureaucracy to access the support they need
- **£104,322** of backdated benefits were received by clients, which would not have been claimed if not for our intervention. This money was vital in alleviating destitution amongst our clients
- **£8,268** of NHS debt owed by our clients was cancelled due to our help. This included charges for the treatment provided after an attempted overdose and for a termination of pregnancy following sexual assault

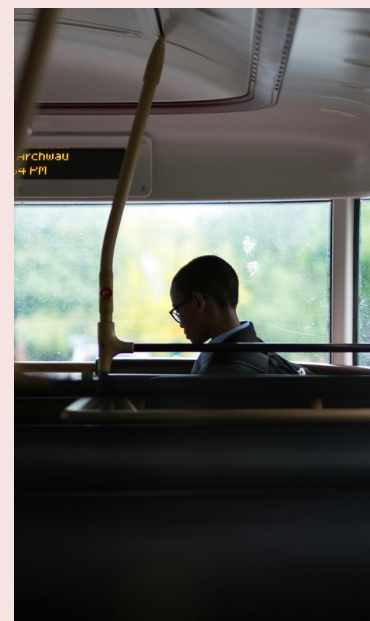
WE SAFEGUARDED OUR CLIENTS FROM RE-TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION



"Yesterday, for the first time, I ate and slept without stress. Of course, before going to sleep, I remembered you and the kind team of Helen Bamber Foundation when I prayed. You are the only one who is keeping my head high and I thank you for that."

Sade, a survivor of trafficking and exploitation from Nigeria, had a difficult upbringing and lost her family at a young age. She was promised a babysitting job in the UK but, upon arrival, she was locked in a house and sexually exploited for five years. After escaping, Sade remained too scared to approach the police. She then worked for three years in a restaurant for no pay, in exchange for accommodation, feeling she had nowhere else to go. Eventually, a woman at church informed her about the National Referral Mechanism (NRM), the UK's system for identifying and supporting someone as a victim of trafficking. Sade was referred for support and was eventually taken onboard as an HBF client. We conducted a 'trafficking assessment', which involved understanding her history of exploitation and the risk of being re-trafficked. This was especially important, since Sade had no documents and we knew very little about her past experiences.

Sade was initially hesitant to open up to our Counter Trafficking team as she struggled to trust others, but slowly she started to develop a relationship of trust. With time, we gained her confidence, and she started attending our textiles classes, where she learned to knit and began to build a community of support with other survivors who shared her experiences. HBF's Counter Trafficking and Legal Protection teams worked with Sade's solicitor to strengthen her asylum application, which would enable her to stay in the UK. Our team continues to speak with Sade regularly to ensure that she is safe and not vulnerable to being exploited again.



In 2024, our Counter Trafficking service played a key role in helping an increasing number of clients who were recognised as 'victims of trafficking' but had been refused permission to stay in the UK. Many also had their asylum claims rejected or were given Notices of Intent for removal to Rwanda. Without the right support, survivors of trafficking are at severe risk of revictimisation and re-exploitation; our Counter Trafficking team provides the crucial care needed to prevent this. Throughout the year, the team increased the number of client appointments and raised the overall monitoring of risks to ensure their safety and wellbeing.

- **188** clients were protected from revictimisation by our Counter Trafficking team in 2024
- **895** appointments were undertaken by our Counter Trafficking team delivering the in-depth support needed to keep survivors safe
- **2,815** interactions were made with clients outside their appointments to ensure their ongoing safety and welfare
- **66** advocacy letters were submitted for grant of asylum, temporary leave to remain post grant of Conclusive Grounds decision, reduction in reporting conditions, and housing. These letters are crucial evidence that help survivors access their legal rights
- **6,315** interventions were made by the Counter Trafficking team. This included liaising with professionals on behalf of the client, such as Modern Slavery Victim Care Contract (MSVCC) providers, solicitors and the police

WE BUILT COMMUNITIES FOR SURVIVORS



"I like to relax playing games. I like food. I feel better when I meet with people, talking. Before, I didn't [want] to talk to men, but here I can talk to the people I meet in this community because you are my family."

At the start of 2024, Linh, a Vietnamese survivor of trafficking, began attending our weekly textiles group. This activity, run by our community and integration team, helps survivors to form friendships and support networks through sewing and knitting. Due to her traumatic experiences, Linh found it extremely difficult to use public transport to attend the sessions and would feel distressed. She switched to travelling by taxi but upon arrival, would curl up in a corner of the room with her head in her hands. Although she would seldom engage with others, she attended each week. Our team used trauma-informed approaches to make her comfortable, which involved offering flexibility and space for her to take her time to adjust to new settings. A few sessions later, we noticed significant changes. Linh would now hug others when she arrived and before she left. She would share her ideas and show others what she had made. Around this time, she had successfully undertaken stabilisation therapy with our therapists. We could see it was immensely helping her.

Now Linh is not only a familiar face in the textiles group, but also attends our English classes, women's yoga sessions, and fortnightly community gatherings. She is comfortable taking public transport and travels with a friend she made in the yoga class. As soon she arrives, her face lights up and she says: "Here is good."



Our community and integration team help clients like Linh regain their trust in people and society through one-on-one casework and a range of trauma-informed activities. These include a Creative Arts and Skills Programme (CASP), yoga, textiles and English classes, support with accessing education, employability and training schemes, as well as helping people access gym memberships, college bursaries, laptops, bicycles, and external social integration opportunities. These opportunities are incredibly important in helping survivors develop the skills, networks, and confidence they need to participate in society.

A highlight of 2024 was the development of our partnership between Arsenal Football Club and Freedom from Torture, a charity that provides therapeutic care for survivors of torture seeking protection in the UK. The partnership has been steadily growing, and at the end of the year, we had a surprise visit from a few Arsenal players like Raheem Sterling and Jurrien Timber, who played a match with our clients. Clients who have been long-time fans of Arsenal were overjoyed to play with the club's players in their home stadium in London.

- **269** clients benefited from our community and integration services in 2024
- **116** took part in our Creative Arts and Skills Programme activities. These activities helped clients learn new skills and rebuild their trust in others
- **46** clients were supported to get gym memberships to improve survivors' physical wellbeing, and aid recovery from long-term injuries
- **59** clients were referred to education providers, where clients could learn English, financial literacy, and other skills vital to participating in the community

WE SUPPORTED SURVIVORS TO REGAIN INDEPENDENCE AND GRADUATE FROM OUR SERVICES



“Reflecting on the past year, I am reminded of the profound impact your organization has had on individuals like me. Your assistance has been invaluable, and I am truly thankful for your commitment to making a difference in my life.”

Our work with our clients is not restricted to a limited period, as the road to recovery is long and not linear. Regaining independence is integral to moving on, and we aid and support until individuals are back on their feet. By the time they are ready to leave our service, survivors have the power, safety and freedom to thrive independently.

- **43** clients formally graduated from the Helen Bamber Foundation in 2024. Each graduate has developed the stability to thrive beyond the need for our support. **91%** had seen an improvement in their mental health during their time with us
- **93** clients were in the process of graduating in 2024. We work closely with all graduating clients, to ensure they are fully equipped to participate full in their communities, and have access to any further support they may need



ASYLUM AID ENSURED THAT MANY MORE PEOPLE RECEIVE PROTECTION, AND ARE TREATED FAIRLY AND WITH DIGNITY

In 2024, Asylum Aid successfully expanded its capacity to provide legal representation to many more vulnerable men, women, non-binary people and children, each with a complex case, requiring the highest quality of legal support. We are proud to have provided this, and our work has not gone unnoticed. Our annual Lexcel audit, a nationally recognised legal practice quality mark awarded by the Law Society, stated that Asylum Aid 'demonstrated outstanding commitment to client care and quality of service'. In December 2024, the Legal Aid Agency awarded us a rare rating of 'excellent' (level 1) following a peer review of a sample of our files.

ASYLUM AID CHANGED LIVES

- **246** clients received legal representation
- **50** clients were granted protection
- **93** new clients were taken onboard
- **764** individuals received support through our Westminster Advice Services Partnership
- **108** children and young people received vital legal representation
- **82** survivors of trafficking and/or torture received legal support
- **22** stateless people received legal representation and 3 were recognised as stateless and given permission to stay
- **9** families were reunited
- **35** people at risk of rough sleeping received immigration advice

TRANSFORMED SYSTEMS

- Asylum Aid ensured that the Safety of Rwanda Act was repealed
- We challenged the Home Office's decision to deem thousands of people inadmissible to the asylum system, which had left them living in limbo
- We revealed the problems with access to justice for people held at Wethersfield
- We fought against delays in asylum decision-making
- We challenged two policies that make family reunion much harder for two groups of vulnerable people: those living in conflict zones and stateless people
- We led a coalition to champion asylum rights and justice

AND BUILT PARTNERSHIPS AND LEGAL CAPACITY

- Asylum Aid trained and supervised our second cohort of Immigration Advice Authority (IAA) Level 2 advisers to take on more complex asylum and human rights casework across the country in advice deserts
- Our Justice First Fellow completed her training contract, working on 20 cases during her training period
- Under our Migrant Justice Greater London Project, we delivered remote supervision to IAA advisers in small community-led organisations across London

PART II: WE EMPOWERED AND TRAINED OUR PARTNERS TO DELIVER TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE

At HBF Group, we recognise that there is unfortunately a limit to the number of survivors we can directly support. That's why we firmly believe that partnerships and collaborations can help us have much wider impact and bring lasting change. By partnering with other charities in the sector and training professionals, we empower them to work with survivors in a trauma-informed way, significantly increasing the services available to thousands more survivors in the UK and internationally. This helps us increase the number of support services available to survivors in the UK and internationally.

In 2024, we trained more than 1,000 professionals to deliver trauma-informed support to survivors.

We conducted training across four broad areas: how to reduce the risk of re-trafficking and further exploitation by providing trauma-informed support; therapeutic approaches to working with refugee and asylum-seeking populations; the application of medico-legal evidence in legal representations; and how to provide high quality legal representation for individuals with complex cases, and in reuniting families.

Our long-standing partnership with Young Roots, a charity that supports young refugees, successfully completed its fifth year.

Our therapy team supported the expansion of Young Roots' services by providing support to **142** survivors. As a result of our work, clients had greatly improved mental health, and our colleagues in Young Roots had increased confidence in referring their clients to other health providers, so that more vulnerable young people are protected.

Since forming our partnership with Glasspool Charity Trust in April 2024, eligible clients of our clients received vital funds to purchase everyday necessities such as school uniforms for their children, furniture and groceries. This has not only been life-changing for survivors who have been experiencing financial difficulties, but has also enabled us to spend less time on extensive applications for small grants to other organisations, thereby creating more capacity within our charity.

We delivered a route out of homelessness for survivors through our partnership with the Refugee and Migrant Forum of Essex and London (RAMFEL). Since 2022, we have been working with RAMFEL to provide immigration advice to people who have slept on the streets or were at risk of doing so. More than half of the clients referred to us under this partnership have significant mental and/or physical health issues. They often have a history of trafficking, exploitation, abuse or have criminal records, often linked to their lack of immigration status. Regularising immigration status can be a route out of homelessness as it enables vulnerable people to access accommodation, financial support and vital medical care while their applications are pending. By securing their stay, they can access housing, benefits and the labour market, rebuilding their lives. **Since the project started in October 2022, we have taken 44 cases, with five clients securing immigration status to date following our advice,** and many more with applications still pending decisions.

In 2024 we launched our sector-leading pilot partnership with the British Red Cross, delivering trauma-focused services for those fleeing conflict, trafficking and torture and who find themselves in areas where there is little provision of specialised mental health treatments. This pilot will also provide the opportunity to build networks with local health care networks, training them on trauma-informed approaches when working with vulnerable refugees, ensuring the sustainability of our impact.

We upskilled therapists through the Central and North West London NHS Trust IAPT partnership by bringing our expertise to a programme commissioned by NHS England. With a view to Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT), we trained high-intensity therapists to work with people seeking asylum and refugees in high-dispersal areas across the UK. Many services lacked experience in working with this client group, and some were refusing clients seeking asylum because of false notions that they would be 'too complex', with too many practical problems or too much insecurity for them to be able to benefit from the treatments for PTSD that other IAPT clients benefitted from. **In 2024, we trained and supervised around 80 therapists, who went on to provide trauma-informed services to hundreds of survivors.**

We trained more than 260 professionals across organisations that provide support to survivors of modern slavery. Our counter-trafficking expertise is at the heart of our training on the provision of trauma-informed services, and in 2024 we improved the service provision for thousands of survivors by training organisations in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland within a subcontractor under the Modern Slavery Victim Care Contract.



PART III: WE ADVOCATED FOR BETTER SYSTEMS AND POLICIES

As human rights advocates, we are uniquely placed, due to our extensive breadth of expertise, research and influence, to bear witness to the experiences of survivors; to support the fight for their rights to be upheld; and to drive systemic change. Our advocacy work is rooted firmly in the lived experiences of survivors, including our clients as we know that to successfully transform people's lives, they must be at the centre of their own care. We use our authoritative medico-legal expertise, alongside evidence from frontline work and research, to secure ongoing policy change; work collaboratively; and support survivors to advocate for the change they want to see.

Following the election of a new government in July 2024 we saw some significant and welcome changes to the asylum and immigration systems. A new government focused on competence and with respect for international law brought renewed hope that survivors will be protected, supported and able to rebuild their lives. We continued to call for compassionate, fair and efficient asylum and trafficking systems in the UK that are lawful, well-resourced and safeguard the most vulnerable.

LEGAL PROTECTION

We strongly opposed the Illegal Migration Act (IMA) and lobbied against the passage of the Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Act 2024. We were pleased to see the new government announce straight away that it was scrapping the Rwanda removals plan and ending the retrospective nature of IMA provisions. This allowed the Home Office to start dealing with the 'perma-backlog' of asylum claims made after March 2023 that had previously been on hold. We then worked with the Home Office Asylum Strategic Engagement Group (ASEG) to ensure that initial asylum decisions are fair and timely, and that the process, including interviews, does not cause harm.

We have long highlighted the legal aid crisis and decimation of the sector, in part due to the low amount given to legal aid providers taking on asylum cases. We have called for changes to legal aid support rates and were pleased to see the government announce an increase to these at the end of October 2024.

PREVENTION OF RE-TRAFFICKING

A lack of secure immigration status can also result in fear, isolation and poverty, leaving survivors of trafficking vulnerable to abuse, exploitation and re-trafficking. Through research and evidence, we have clearly demonstrated the need for survivors to have secure immigration status. Our evidence was used in successful legal challenges and helped push the government to reconsider its policy on grants of leave for those recognised as victims under the National Referral Mechanism.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Our [groundbreaking research](#) has shown that the Home Office is incorrectly treating hundreds of children seeking asylum as adults, based on a short visual assessment on arrival in the UK, and that this 'age dispute' process is causing significant harm to children. Our evidence was repeatedly cited in parliamentary debates on the Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill and has fed into strategic litigation. We are working with the Association of Directors of Children's Services (ACDS) to revise guidance for social workers.

SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

We have worked tirelessly to highlight the harm caused to survivors forced into an environment of extreme isolation in harmful accommodation and ex-military sites. We submitted evidence to parliament and published two key reports on the impact of [hotels](#) and of [RAF Wethersfield](#) on the mental health of survivors. The latter was used in the key legal challenge to the use of Wethersfield.

With Freedom from Torture, we brought a joint legal challenge to changes to the Allocation of Asylum Accommodation policy that would increase the number of survivors of torture and trafficking who are forced to share bedrooms with strangers and remain in unsuitable accommodation. The case was ongoing during the drafting of this report.

In response to increased pressure, the government announced that it would stop using hotels, the Bibby Stockholm, and Napier barracks to accommodate people seeking asylum, and scrapped plans to open new accommodation in RAF Scampton. The Prime Minister committed to closing RAF Wethersfield before the election, but this has not yet happened. While it remained open, we worked with the Home Office to improve access to legal advice at the site. Through legal advocacy, strategic evidence submission, and public engagement, we remain committed to ending the use of detention-like asylum accommodation for survivors to ensure their right to safety.

RECOVERY AND INTEGRATION

Working closely with the Home Office, MPs and Peers, we successfully challenged the introduction of short-notice evictions of newly recognised refugees from asylum accommodation. We were pleased to see a significant shift in the government's operations and a pilot of double the 'move-on' period to new refugees to 56 days to avoid these risks reoccurring.

OUR RESEARCH: KEY TO INFLUENCING POLICY AND PRACTICE

HBf's research is grounded in the lived experiences of our clients, the expertise of our staff and volunteers, and the systemic problems we witness. In 2024, in collaboration with clients and staff, we published research that continues to have significant and wide-ranging implications on public policy and practice and our collective understanding of the experiences of survivors. These included:

[Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) in the Asylum System](#)

Published in *Medicine, Science and the Law* in January 2024, this research paper reviews the applications of AI tools in the asylum context and considers their impact across diverse ranges of human activity, including law, governance and administration.

[A mile in their shoes: understanding health-care journeys of refugees and asylum seekers in the UK](#)

Published in the *International Journal of Migration, Health and Social Care* in February 2024, this research gains a more comprehensive understanding of the current barriers to healthcare for people seeking asylum and refugees, and provides key recommendations for the NHS and other service providers.

[The psychological impact of the age dispute process on unaccompanied children seeking asylum in the UK](#)

Published in May 2024, this research advocates for a shift from using chronological age to individual vulnerability while determining the needs of asylum-seeking children and young people.

[Mass containment sites for people seeking asylum must be abandoned](#)

This opinion piece, published in the *BMJ*, illustrates how mass containment sites are not suitable accommodation for anyone seeking asylum, and argues that they are particularly damaging for people with trauma and poor health.

[Remote immigration and asylum advice: what we know and what we need to know](#)

This research was co-produced with A&M Consultancy, a lived experience consultancy, and was a partnership between HBF, Asylum Aid and Public Law Project. It analysed the advantages and disadvantages of providing remote legal advice and recommended that the Ministry of Justice should establish best practice guidance for remote advice, in consultation with a broad range of legal aid providers, clients and interpreters, among other stakeholders.

[Asylum interviews in the UK: do they follow the Home Office's interview guidelines? A pilot study](#)

Published in August 2024, this study was undertaken by the University of Birmingham and HBF to understand whether it was possible for caseworkers to adhere to the Home Office's interview guidelines. The researchers examined interview transcripts, focusing on traumatic conversations about sexual and gender-based violence.

[Experiences and impact of moral injury in human trafficking survivors: a qualitative study](#)

This research can be used by clinical care teams and organisations that support trafficking survivors to shape and inform targeted guidance and support to ensure those affected by 'moral injury' receive high quality care.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

HBF STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS: A COMMUNITY EFFORT

We can only provide the standard of services required by our clients thanks to the dedication, professionalism and vision of our staff and volunteers. During 2024, on an average head count basis, we had 76 employees across the HBF Group: 51 at HBF and 25 at Asylum Aid. Throughout the year, we were supported by 60 volunteers at HBF and four volunteers at Asylum Aid, among them doctors, therapists, teachers, solicitors, administrators and other specialists.

We are also immensely grateful and privileged that Professor Cornelius Katona, our Honorary Medical and Research Director, and Dr Jane Hunt, our Senior Medical Advisor, continue to be members of the Helen Bamber Foundation team on a voluntary basis.

MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE: MAXIMISING IMPACT AND PRODUCTIVITY

HBF and Asylum Aid are independent charities. We have developed a group structure to maximise the impact we have on the lives of survivors of trafficking and torture. We share back-office support, including executives, finance, HR, volunteer management, facilities and fundraising. Asylum Aid has seven Trustees, three of whom, including the Chair of the Finance and Fundraising Committee, also serve on the HBF Board, to ensure strong governance and joint strategic alignment, as well as independent decision-making.

To ensure independence, as well as greater impact for the Group, HBF and Asylum Aid do not share clients. The Managing Executives provide day-to-day management of the Group through a Management Group made up of the Chief Executive, Executive Directors, Directors, and Heads of Teams. The Finance and Fundraising Committee (HBF Group), the People and Governance Committee (HBF Group) and the Clinical Governance and Safeguarding Committee (HBF only), bring together Trustees and management team members. The HBF Board of Trustees, under its Chair, Adam Epstein, and supported by the Asylum Aid Trustees, provided strong strategic oversight and governance of the Group throughout 2024.

VOLUNTEERS: THE PILLAR OF OUR WORK

Our volunteers are the backbone of our achievements. We believe in nurturing our volunteers and ensuring that the experience for them is both professionally and personally rewarding.

- Our volunteers logged more than 4,240 interactions with clients across 2024
- 475 clients received support from volunteers in 2024



"My experience at HBF came at a time where helping others with my skills benefitted me a great deal. I was having challenges with my mental health and volunteering my skills for those who have suffered real turmoil and exploitation was not only rewarding but also helped me put things into perspective."

Lena, Textiles Group volunteer

2025: SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS

We take immense pride in all the work we have done over the last year. As we have come to the end of our 2022-2024 strategy, we are delighted to have met our goals, expanded our direct services with compassion and kindness to support more survivors than ever before, and worked collaboratively with other organisations to transform the systems that impact survivors.

Globally, there are over 123 million people forcibly displaced as a result of persecution, conflict or human rights violence, a factor that increases a person's risk of being trafficked. There is increased demand for our services, and to respond to this need for trauma-informed care and legal representation, we have made the strategic investment in the Trauma Centre. The Centre will transform our impact, enabling us to serve more clients, build new partnerships nationally, deliver best practice training across the sector, and influence systems change.

In 2025, we will build on our achievements and embark on the next phase of our growth, so we can reach even more survivors. Going forward, we will:

- Increase the number of survivors to whom we provide direct support, and build capacity in the sector to provide quality legal advice and effective trauma treatment that works and prevents re-trafficking
- Partner with more organisations and charities to increase the support available to survivors in the UK and increase collaboration with grassroots and lived experience-led organisations
- Use evidence, expertise and legal challenges to secure policy changes and reduce the impact of harmful systems on the mental health of survivors

We are able to achieve our ambitious goals and make a meaningful difference to many, thanks to your continued support. We could not have done any of this without your generosity and encouragement. Your solidarity brings us and thousands of survivors hope for the future.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK

Our policies relating to reserves and the need to generate an annual operating surplus provide a financial framework within which the Helen Bamber Foundation Group seeks to function.

RESERVES POLICY

Our Group reserves policy is to maintain an unrestricted general fund of between three and six months of gross expenditure for the next financial year. This target level of reserves is kept under review by the trustees. It has been set to provide the charity with sufficient funds to accommodate potential cost of identified risks, without being excessive and reducing funds available to further the Helen Bamber Foundation Group's charitable objects.

The Group Board of Trustees made the strategic decision to invest unrestricted free reserves in the Trauma Centre, in addition to using the established designated fund. Trustees agreed that reserves could be taken below the policy target level, to two months' cover. After allowing for designated funds (note 15a), in December 2024 the Helen Bamber Foundation Group ended the year with unrestricted general funds of £758,920 at the end of 2024 representing 2 months' cover.

The Board are committed to growing reserves to between 3 and 6 months over the next three years. We have a strong, committed and diversified donor base, and a long-term history of successful fundraising from both existing and new donors. This, along with strong financial governance, which dictates our expenditure, means that we are confident that we are able to deliver against the goal of growing reserves.

DESIGNATED FUNDS

The trustees have designated the following funds:

- Casework in progress – A designated fund to represent the value of work in progress done by Asylum Aid relating to legal cases at the year-end, which is an illiquid asset £1,066,760 (2023: £483,240). Asylum Aid provides legal representation to vulnerable clients with complex cases. These cases and support provided by the charity can take multiple years to conclude and cannot be billed until the conclusion of the case. The casework in progress resulting from this work is an asset which we have a reasonable expectation will become convertible into cash at a future date, but the trustees have created a designated fund to exclude it from free reserves due to the uncertainty over timing and amount. The increase in our casework in progress designated fund is due to an increase in activity as a result of growth in the organisation's capacity to deliver this complex casework, as well as ongoing delays in cases reaching conclusion, impacting our ability to realise the funds.
- A designated fund to represent the net book value of the charity's fixed assets £49,451 (2023: £36,037).
- Rent-free inducement – A designated fund to reflect accounting treatment of the inducement of the operating lease. -£232,694 (2023: £nil)
- New Premise Fund – A designated fund to represent the net book value of the leasehold improvement and fixtures for the Trauma Centre and office premises. This fund has increased due to the Capital Project and investment in the Trauma Centre. £1,038,632 (2023: £218,616)

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

In 2024, activities resulted in a group surplus of £948,002, and total Funds of £2,962,024 (£2,014,022 in 2023) comprising of unrestricted funds of £2,681,070 (£1,682,389 in 2023) and restricted funds of £280,954 (£331,633 in 2023). A budget showing a surplus has been set for 2025, to support the rebuilding of our reserves.

RISKS

The significant risks to which HBF Group is exposed, as identified by the trustees, have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate these risks. Among the risks identified, the most significant are considered to be:

- The need to rebuild our reserves following the significant investment in the Capital Project.
- The challenge of the delays in receipt of Legal Aid funding due to delays in decision making and therefore closure of cases.
- The increasingly inhumane environment facing our client group and corresponding ineffectiveness of the asylum system, which results in a higher likelihood of an increase in the complexity of needs and higher demand for our services.
- The uncertain funding environment for human rights globally that may impact on funding in the UK.
- The increasing struggle that junior members of the team have in finding affordable housing in London due to increasing rents and the impact of the cost of living rises.
- Moral injury and risk of burnout to staff resulting from our work with clients with complex needs, and hostile operating environment including increasing far right activity in the UK and international conflicts and oppression.

These risks are mitigated in part through close operational monitoring and prioritisation of the reserves policy as well as the oversight of the Finance and Fundraising Committee, and the People and Governance Committee.

SUBSEQUENT EVENTS AND GOING CONCERN

The trustees continue to engage measures to mitigate the risks to HBF Group from the ongoing delays in decision-making by the Home Office and by the courts, which have caused delays in receiving income from the Legal Aid Agency for work done, as well as leaving many of our clients waiting unacceptably long periods in immigration uncertainty. The Legal Aid Agency suffered a major cyber incident in spring 2025 which has led to their online systems for legal aid applications and billing being taken offline for an extended period. Asylum Aid has been able to mitigate the impact of this on its work and cashflow through the contingency arrangements provided by the LAA and a focus on inter partes billing, which is unaffected. The trustees continue to focus on fundraised income during this period, and kept an eye on the rising cost of living and its impact on remuneration, retention and recruitment.

The trustees use additional Finance and Fundraising Committee meetings where needed, and to provide clear parameters that support our reserves policy for the budget setting. The Capital Appeal has enabled us to raise our profile with a wide range of donors and we are actively building upon these relationships to support ongoing charitable activity in the Trauma Centre.

Taking into account these steps and the reserves held at the year-end by the Helen Bamber Foundation Group, the trustees consider it reasonable to expect that the Group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the trustees continue to adopt the 'going concern' basis in preparing the accounts. The trustees and senior management have increased the regularity of financial forecasts in both the short and medium term. We continue to strengthen our financial processes and systems so we can monitor financial risk, and where required, take appropriate management action.

RELATED PARTIES AND RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS.

During the year the HBF Group received a total of £75,000 unrestricted donations from 1 Trustee.

SUMMARY RESULTS OF THE SUBSIDIARY (ASYLUM AID)

Asylum Aid had a successful year in 2024, which ended in a surplus of £620,274 (£520,134 in 2023).

Total Funds as of 31st December 2024 were £1,678,363 (2023: £1,058,089) which consist of unrestricted free reserves of £408,759 (2023: £257,103). This represents the equivalent of three months of unrestricted expenditure, and restricted reserves of £261,017 (2023: £292,746). The casework work in progress (WIP) designated fund £1,066,760 (2023: £483,240) described above is excluded from Asylum Aid's unrestricted free reserves as it is an illiquid asset.

REMUNERATION POLICY

The objectives of HBF's remuneration policy are to:

- Reward staff appropriately and enable the recruitment and retention of high calibre personnel.
- Ensure the proper use of the charity's resources in accordance with its aims and within affordable limits, based on the financial circumstances of the charity.
- Be non-discriminatory, just and equitable in the evaluation of jobs and their remuneration by providing a stable framework for the remuneration of the team.
- Pay at a competitive level, taking account of external market rates — with an aim to set pay around the median level for comparable posts in the voluntary sector, subject to the charity's financial position.
- Operate within the law.

Remuneration is reviewed on an annual basis and agreed by the Board of Trustees. When setting pay levels, the charity gives consideration to external benchmark comparators, changes in the national average earnings index, affordability and other internal and external pressures, including recruitment and retention. The policy applies to all staff, including the charity's executive team.

FUNDRAISING

HBF Group's fundraising team produces an annual Income Generation Strategy against which performance is regularly monitored by senior management and trustees. In 2024, HBF continued to adapt to the challenging fundraising environment, and successfully raised £4,295,122 thanks to the generosity of our supporters.

HBF Group's fundraising approach reflects the principles published on the HBF's website www.helenbamber.org. The charity's fundraising programme is delivered using internal resources and in 2024 we did not use external professional fundraisers, nor did we use commercial participators. HBF Group does not generate merchandise for fundraising purposes.

HBF Group is registered with the Fundraising Regulator. Registration represents a commitment to the highest standards of practice and ensures that all fundraising activity is open, legal and fair. As a registered participant, HBF Group commits to the Board's Codes of Fundraising Practice, which is the standard set for fundraisers in the UK. Registered participants also commit to abide by its Fundraising Promise, which is based on five key pledges that reflect the core values of respect, honesty, accountability and transparency. HBF Group is strongly committed to recognised sector standards and is actively working to protect vulnerable people and other members of the public from behaviour which:

- Is an unreasonable intrusion on a person's privacy.
- Is unreasonably persistent.
- Places undue pressure on a person to give money or other property.

HBF Group has received no complaints in regard to its fundraising activities in 2024.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

In setting HBF Group's objectives and planning its activities, the Board of Trustees has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. In particular, the Board of Trustees considers how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set. The Helen Bamber Foundation Group has been established to help the following, people who:

- are seeking asylum or other forms of protection in the UK;
- have already been granted refugee status, humanitarian protection or other forms of protection status by UK immigration authorities;
- have insecure immigration status or are stateless;
- are vulnerable by reason of their experience of torture, trafficking, hostilities, genocides or other atrocities or human cruelty,
- are vulnerable to destitution, exploitation, abuse, trafficking or other forms of human cruelty including but not limited to those outside their country of origin; and
- Are the dependants of those mentioned above.

The public benefit we provide is to benefit the above individuals through:

- relieving their conditions of need, hardship or distress;
- preserving and protecting their physical and mental health;
- advancing their education and training so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community;
- advancing public education about the position of and issues relating to the Beneficiaries, including gross violations of human rights, torture, atrocities and other forms of human cruelty and their effect on persons who suffer them;
- assisting them in such other exclusively charitable ways as the Charity determines from time to time.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees of the Helen Bamber Foundation (who are also directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). This report includes information contained in Asylum Aid's annual report; it is the trustees of Asylum Aid who are responsible for preparing their annual report and the financial statements contained therein.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware.
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The trustees of the Helen Bamber Foundation are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the Helen Bamber Foundation in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 December 2024 was eight (2023: eleven). The trustees are members of the Helen Bamber Foundation but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

AUDITOR

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the charitable company's auditor during the year and has expressed its willingness to continue in that capacity. The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 15 September 2025 and signed on their behalf by

John Scampion, Treasurer

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of Helen Bamber Foundation (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, the group and parent charitable company balance sheets, the consolidated statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the group financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on Helen Bamber Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

OTHER INFORMATION

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the group financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the group financial statements does not cover the other information, and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the group financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the group financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

OPINIONS ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- The information given in the trustees' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements
- The trustees' annual report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees (who are also the directors of the parent charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and the parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or the parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We have been appointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with those Acts.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are set out below.

CAPABILITY OF THE AUDIT IN DETECTING IRREGULARITIES

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's and group's policies and procedures relating to:
- Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
- Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
- The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the group operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the group from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Joanna Pittman (Senior statutory auditor)

Date: 26 September 2025

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

110 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TG

Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Consolidated statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

for the Helen Bamber Foundation Group (comprising the Helen Bamber Foundation and Asylum Aid)
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £
Income from:							
Donations – legal protection	2	594,835	404,645	999,480	345,301	366,668	711,969
Donations – therapy and casework	2	-	256,110	256,110	-	69,974	69,974
Donations – community integration	2	-	77,735	77,735	-	50,591	50,591
Donations – counter trafficking	2	-	-	-	-	26,061	26,061
Donations – research, policy, dissemination	2	-	54,000	54,000	-	1,522	1,522
Donations – capital appeal	2	-	910,179	910,179	-	-	-
Donations – general	2	1,934,618	63,000	1,997,618	1,638,733	97,774	1,736,507
Charitable activities							
Fees from medical legal reports – Legal protection		145,420	-	145,420	85,434	-	85,434
Other legal services		866,069	-	866,069	460,132	38,322	498,454
Westminster ASP		124,745	-	124,745	117,191	-	117,191
MLP Income		-	251,104	251,104	-	398,461	398,461
Other income		77,716	-	77,716	70,114	-	70,114
Bank interest		11,079	-	11,079	11,099	-	11,099
Total income		3,754,482	2,016,773	5,771,255	2,728,004	1,049,373	3,777,377
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	3	430,226	-	430,226	299,144	-	299,144
Charitable activities							
Legal protection	3	1,584,615	854,541	2,439,156	825,696	658,953	1,484,649
Therapy and casework	3	303,193	162,109	465,302	470,743	85,269	556,012
Community integration	3	106,606	86,623	193,229	71,437	72,304	143,741
Counter trafficking	3	585,140	-	585,140	579,810	70,297	650,107
Research, policy and dissemination	3	284,710	54,000	338,710	312,405	23,320	335,725
Other – capital project		-	371,490	371,490	-	-	-
Total expenditure		3,294,490	1,528,763	4,823,253	2,559,235	910,143	3,469,378
Net income for the year before transfers	4	459,992	488,010	948,002	168,769	139,230	307,999
Transfers between funds		-	(538,689)	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		998,681	(50,679)	948,002	168,769	139,230	307,999
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		1,682,389	331,633	2,014,022	1,513,620	192,403	1,706,023
Total funds carried forward		2,681,068	280,955	2,962,024	1,682,389	331,633	2,014,022

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 15a to the financial statements.

Balance sheets

As at 31 December 2024

Company no. 08186281

		The group		The charity Helen Bamber Foundation	
		2024	2023	2024	2023
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	8	1,111,790	36,037	1,088,082	22,853
		1,111,790	36,037	1,088,082	22,853
Current assets:					
Debtors	11	549,002	268,615	496,264	257,052
Casework-in-progress		1,066,760	483,240	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		1,428,598	1,835,115	427,067	869,097
		3,044,360	2,586,970	923,331	1,126,149
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12a	(721,432)	(608,985)	(313,232)	(193,070)
Net current assets		2,322,928	1,977,985	610,099	933,079
Creditors: amounts falling due in more than one year	12b	(472,694)	-	(414,521)	-
Total Net Assets		2,962,024	2,014,022	1,283,660	955,932
Funds:	15a				
Restricted income funds		280,955	331,633	19,938	38,888
Unrestricted income funds:					
Designated fixed asset fund		49,451	36,037	49,451	22,853
Designated Casework-in-Progress		1,066,760	483,240	-	-
Designated Fund – Rent Free Period		(232,694)	-	(174,521)	-
Designated- New Premise Fund		1,038,632	218,616	1,038,632	193,616
Designated WIP					
General funds		758,920	944,496	350,160	700,575
Total unrestricted funds		2,681,068	1,682,389	1,263,722	917,044
Total funds		2,962,024	2,014,022	1,283,660	955,932

Approved by the trustees on 15 September 2025 and signed on their behalf by

John Scampion Treasurer

Consolidated statement of cash flows

for the Helen Bamber Foundation Group (comprising the Helen Bamber Foundation and Asylum Aid)
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	2024	2023
		£	£
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		948,001	307,999
Depreciation charges		54,853	12,917
(Increase) / decrease in debtors		(280,387)	170,486
(Increase) in casework-in-progress		(583,520)	(247,699)
Increase in creditors		345,142	233,892
Net cash provided by operating activities		484,084	477,595
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of fixed assets		(1,130,606)	(26,807)
Net cash used in investing activities		(1,130,606)	(26,807)
		1,428,598	1,835,115
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Cash inflows from new borrowing		240,000	-
Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities		240,000	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(406,517)	450,788
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,835,115	1,384,327
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements		-	-
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	a	1,428,598	1,835,115

Analysis of cash and cash equivalents and of net debt

	At 1 January 2024	Cash flows	Other non-cash changes	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	1,835,115	(406,517)	-	1,428,598
a Total cash and cash equivalents	1,835,115	(406,517)	-	1,428,598

Notes to the financial statements

1 Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

Helen Bamber Foundation is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom.

The registered office address is 26 – 30 Westland Place, London, N1 7JH.

b) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) – (Charities SORP FRS 102), The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charity and its subsidiary Asylum Aid on a line by line basis. Transactions and balances between the charity and its subsidiary have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements. Balances between the two entities are disclosed in the notes of the charity's balance sheet. A separate statement of financial activities, or income and expenditure account, for the charity itself is not presented because the charity has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

As of July 2023, the activities of the Migrant Law Project (MLP) were transferred to the Helen Bamber Foundation group subsidiary, Asylum Aid from Islington Law Centre. The transfer included staff working on the project, £200,000 in unrestricted funds to fund the next two years of the project, unspent restricted project funding allocated to the project, and work in progress on project files totalling approximately a further £200,000.

In applying the financial reporting framework, the trustees have made a number of subjective judgements, for example in respect of significant accounting estimates. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The nature of the estimation means the actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. Any significant estimates and judgements affecting these financial statements are detailed within the relevant accounting policy below.

c) Reporting period

The financial statements cover the year to 31 December 2024.

d) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

e) Going concern

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

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

f) Recognition of income

Recognition of income takes place in accordance with applicable accounting policies and results are presented in accordance with the SORP. All incoming resources are included in the Statement of financial activities when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably. Grants and donations are recorded in the period in which they are received or the charity is entitled to the income.

Donations receivable for the general purposes of the charity are credited to Unrestricted funds and donations tied to a particular purpose are credited to Restricted funds.

Revenue grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable, whichever is earlier. Where unconditional entitlement to grants receivable is dependent on fulfilment of conditions within the charity's control, the incoming resources are recognised when there is sufficient evidence that conditions will be met. Where there is uncertainty as to whether the charity can meet such conditions, the incoming resource is deferred. When funding received is designated by the donor to be used in a specific future period, income is deferred.

Income from medico legal reports is recognised when the report has been completed and submitted to the customer and an invoice has been raised.

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

Work in Progress is valued at the average hourly rate paid by the Legal Aid Agency. Provision is made where necessary for irrecoverable amount of work in progress.

All other income, such as training fees, is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable probability. Legacies are included when there is reasonable probability of receipt, amount and timing.

Where income is received in advance of its recognition, it is deferred and included in creditors. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued and included in debtors.

g) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

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

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

h) Recognition of expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis in the period to which the cost relates and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered. Where costs cannot be directly attributable to particular activities, they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources. Overheads, salaries and governance costs are allocated between the activity headings on the basis of attributable employment cost, and an element of judgement is involved. Costs of raising funds are those costs, including fundraising expenditures, incurred by the charity to obtain funds. Support costs are those costs incurred which are not directly an output of the charitable activity. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with enabling the charity to comply with external regulation, constitutional and statutory requirements and in providing support to the Trustees in the discharge of their statutory duties.

i) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £250. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use. Major components are treated as a separate asset where they have significantly different patterns of consumption of economic benefits and are depreciated separately over its useful life.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Only individual assets costing £250 or more and not forming part of a larger project are capitalised. This level is periodically reviewed, along with the need for a formal impairment review.

Provision is made for depreciation of fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less the estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over 3 years and other fixed assets over 4 years.

j) Cash at bank and in hand

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

k) Recognition of liabilities and constructive liabilities

Liabilities, including constructive obligations, are recognised at the point at which the charity is deemed to have entered into a binding commitment. Provisions are recognised when there is a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the obligation.

l) Leases

Rental costs under operating leases are charged to expenditure as incurred. Lease incentives received by the charity are released on a straight line basis to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period until the first break clause or, in the case of leases already existing, until the rent review.

m) Pensions

The charity contributes to a stakeholder pension scheme on behalf of its staff, and the cost is recognised as incurred.

n) Taxation status

As a charity, Helen Bamber Foundation is exempt from taxation of income and gains falling within Section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent these are applied charitably. No tax charge has arisen in the year.

o) Funds

The charity's financial statements are a consolidation of individual funds. These divide into two distinct categories: unrestricted and restricted.

Unrestricted funds

The use of these funds has not been restricted to a particular purpose by the donor. The unrestricted funds comprise the General fund and Designated funds.

General fund

The General fund is the working fund of the charity. It is not tied or designated as are the other funds for use for a particular or defined purpose. The General fund has to provide for the net deficit of any activities that have inadequate income of their own and for the general administration of the charity. It also provides working capital for operations and helps to provide resources to ensure that the charity is able to continue with its obligations in the event of a shortfall in income or unexpected upturn in expenditure. The current target level for the unrestricted general fund is between three and six months of the higher of projected gross income or gross expenditure for the next financial year.

Designated funds

Designated funds are those which have been allocated by the charity for particular purposes. The Fixed Asset reserve represents the net book value of the investment by the General fund in fixed assets.

Restricted funds

These are income funds tied to particular purposes. They include gifts made to the charity to be used in accordance with the wishes of the donors. Until funds are expended, they are placed on deposit or held in cash.

p) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due, after provision for doubtful debts.

2 Income from donations

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations – trusts and foundations	1,304,503	1,124,139	2,428,642	1,540,080	504,599	2,044,679
Donations – individuals	316,887	-	316,887	287,293	-	287,293
Donations – corporate	537,281	413,999	951,280	131,077	107,000	238,077
Donations – legacies	424,538	-	424,538	-	-	-
Other	9,244	164,531	173,775	25,584	991	26,575
	2,592,453	1,702,669	4,295,122	1,984,034	612,590	2,596,624

The “other” donations comprise income from community fundraising.

Restricted and unrestricted donations from trusts and foundations greater than £5,000 in 2024 (£5,000 in 2023) were as follows:-

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
The A. B. Charitable Trust	55,000	-	55,000	55,000	-	55,000
Anti Slavery International	-	5,180	5,180	-	-	-
City Bridge Foundation	-	63,000	63,000	32,250	-	32,250
The Clothworkers Foundation	-	100,000	100,000	-	-	-
The Bryan Guinness Charitable Trust	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-
Rayne Foundation	25,000	-	25,000	-	-	-
The Edward Gostling Foundation	-	40,000	40,000	-	-	-
Eleanor Rathbone Trust	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
Emmanuel Kaye Foundation	-	20,000	20,000	-	-	-
Comic Relief	-	-	-	-	22,084	22,084
The Evan Cornish Foundation	-	24,000	24,000	-	-	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	-	-	25,000	-	25,000
Glasspool Charity Trust	-	37,950	37,950	-	-	-
Lloyds Charitable Trust	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
The Henry Smith Charity	-	60,000	60,000	-	60,000	60,000
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	-	17,500	17,500	-	10,000	10,000
Strategic Legal Fund	-	14,040	14,040	-	30,000	30,000
The Legal Education Foundation	-	53,000	53,000	-	46,000	46,000
London Legal Support Trust	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	-
29th May 1961	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	-
Mark Benevolent Fund	-	45,180	45,180	-	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund	41,667	12,903	54,570	83,333	74,597	157,930
Oak Foundation	70,000	-	70,000	70,000	-	70,000
Persula Foundation	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
DD McPhail Charitable Settlement	-	-	-	10,000	-	10,000
Postcode Equality Trust	600,000	-	600,000	600,000	-	600,000
Samworth Foundation	100,000	240,000	340,000	100,000	-	100,000
Sisters of the Holy Cross	-	15,000	15,000	-	-	-
The Souter Charitable Trust	45,000	-	45,000	45,000	-	45,000
Schroder Charity Trust	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
Tribe Freedom Foundation	-	-	-	35,000	-	35,000
Trust for London	-	61,850	61,850	-	67,970	67,970
William Kessler Family Charity	15,000	-	15,000	-	-	-
Disrupt Foundation	50,000	-	50,000	50,000	-	50,000

2 Income from donations (continued)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unbound Philanthropy	20,000	-	20,000	25,000	-	25,000
Justice Together Initiative	-	95,855	95,855	-	88,860	88,860
Open Society Foundation	60,000	20,000	80,000	80,000	-	80,000
Good Law Ltd	-	-	-	-	29,040	29,040
Choose Love	-	80,000	80,000	-	-	-
Society of the Holy Child Jesus	20,000	-	20,000	-	-	-
BBC Children In Need	-	25,000	25,000	-	-	-
Other trusts – Trusts under £5,000	16,753	18,185	34,938	19,498	35,547	55,045
Anonymous	93,500	33,241	126,741	290,000	40,500	330,500
Total	1,226,919	1,091,884	2,318,803	1,650,081	504,598	2,154,679

3a Analysis of expenditure (current year)

	Charitable activities							2024 Total	2023 Total
	Cost of raising funds	Legal protection	Therapy and casework	Community and Integration	Counter Trafficking	Research, policy and dissemination	Support and Governance costs		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs (Note 5)	256,614	1,397,686	256,906	96,264	365,842	192,838	236,937	2,803,087	2,347,744
Legal protection	-	460,238	-	-	-	-	-	460,238	334,218
Therapy and casework	-	-	50,673	-	-	-	-	50,673	86,714
Community and Integration	-	-	-	31,465	-	-	-	31,465	42,466
Counter Trafficking	-	-	-	-	20,954	-	-	20,954	17,602
Education, policy and research	-	-	-	-	-	31,060	-	31,060	40,589
Fundraising costs	27,779	-	-	-	-	-	-	27,779	22,708
Premises costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	754,171	754,171	269,356
Audit	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,170	21,170	23,000
Trustee expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	160
Office and supplies costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	236,129	236,129	193,125
Irrecoverable VAT	-	-	-	-	-	-	310,742	310,742	73,587
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	54,853	54,853	12,917
Movement on doubtful debt provision	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,932	20,932	5,192
	284,393	1,857,924	307,579	127,729	386,796	223,898	1,634,934	4,823,253	3,469,378
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Support and Governance costs allocation	145,833	952,722	157,723	65,500	198,344	114,812	(1,634,934)	-	-
Total expenditure 2024	430,226	2,810,646	465,302	193,229	585,140	338,710	-	4,823,253	
Total expenditure 2023	299,144	1,484,649	556,012	143,741	650,107	335,725	-		3,469,378

Governance costs are included above under audit fees and trustees' expenses.

3b Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Cost of raising funds	Charitable activities					Support and Governance costs	2023 Total
		Legal protection	Therapy and casework	Community and Integration	Counter Trafficking	Research, policy and dissemination		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs (Note 5)	202,524	842,835	343,820	74,197	463,389	216,224	204,755	2,347,744
Legal protection	-	334,218	-	-	-	-	-	334,218
Therapy and casework	-	-	86,714	-	-	-	-	86,714
Community Integration and creative arts programme	-	-	-	42,466	-	-	-	42,466
Counter Trafficking	-	-	-	-	17,602	-	-	17,602
Education, policy and research	-	-	-	-	-	40,589	-	40,589
Fundraising costs	22,708	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,708
Premises costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	269,356	269,356
Audit	-	-	-	-	-	-	23,000	23,000
Trustee expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	160	160
Office and supplies costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	193,125	193,125
Irrecoverable VAT	-	-	-	-	-	-	73,587	73,587
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,917	12,917
Movement on doubtful debt provision	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,192	5,192
	225,232	1,177,053	430,534	116,663	480,991	256,813	782,092	3,469,378
Support and Governance costs allocation	73,912	307,596	125,478	27,078	169,116	78,912	(782,092)	-
Total expenditure 2023	299,144	1,484,649	556,012	143,741	650,107	335,725	-	3,469,378

Governance costs are included above under audit fees and trustees' expenses.

4 Net income for the year before transfers

This is stated after charging:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation	54,853	12,917
Operating lease rentals:		
Property	116,834	151,545
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit of Helen Bamber Foundation	12,800	12,200
Over provision in prior year	(2,180)	-
Audit of Asylum Aid	9,400	9,000
Asylum Aid Corporation Tax Fees	1,150	-

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

Staff costs were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and wages	2,429,282	2,028,130
Social security costs	228,697	189,146
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	89,847	74,510
Recruitment costs	10,260	14,398
Interim staffing costs	46,916	18,360
Redundancy costs	17,300	23,200
	2,822,302	2,347,744

0 employees earned between £60,000 and £70,000 during the year (2023: 3). 1 employee earned between £70,000 and £80,000 (2023: None). 3 employees earned between £80,000 and £90,000 (2023: 1).

The total employee benefits including pension contributions of the key management personnel were £381,877 (2023: £366,429).

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

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

No trustee expenses were incurred by the charity in the year (2023: £160).

6 Staff numbers

The average number of employees based on the average headcount employed during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Fundraising	5	6
Charitable activity	65	54
Support	6	6
Governance	3	3
	79	69

7 Related party transactions

There were management charges of £116,743 relating to the Helen Bamber Foundation staff costs recharged to Asylum Aid in 2024 (2023: £80,627).

There were no donations from related parties which were outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties. The total amount of donations received in 2024 from Trustees or parties related to them was £75,000 (2023: £141,330).

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold Improvement	Fixtures and fittings	ICT and medical equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
At the start of the year	113,376	34,738	107,299	255,413
Additions in year	1,044,533	29,733	56,340	1,130,606
Disposals in year	(113,376)	(28,375)	-	(141,751)
At the end of the year	1,044,533	36,096	163,639	1,244,268
Depreciation				
At the start of the year	113,376	34,308	71,692	219,376
Charge for the year	34,063	2,002	18,788	54,853
Eliminated on disposal	(113,376)	(28,375)	-	(141,751)
At the end of the year	34,063	7,935	90,480	132,478
Net book value				
At the end of the year	1,010,471	28,161	73,159	1,111,790
At the start of the year	-	430	35,607	36,037

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

The charity				
Helen Bamber Foundation	Leasehold Improvement	Fixtures and fittings	ICT and medical equipment	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£
At the start of the year	113,376	34,738	90,508	238,622
Additions in year	1,044,533	29,733	40,302	1,114,568
Disposals in year	(113,376)	(28,375)	-	(141,751)
At the end of the year	1,044,533	36,096	130,810	1,211,439
Depreciation				
At the start of the year	113,376	34,308	68,086	215,770
Charge for the year	34,063	2,002	13,274	49,339
Eliminated on disposal	(113,376)	(28,375)	-	(141,751)
At the end of the year	34,062	7,935	81,360	123,357
Net book value				
At the end of the year	1,010,471	28,161	49,450	1,088,082
At the start of the year	-	430	22,423	22,853

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

9 Subsidiary undertaking – Asylum Aid

The charity controls the subsidiary, Asylum Aid, a company registered in England. The company number is 2513874 and charity number is 328729. The registered office address is that of the parent company. It is a subsidiary of the Helen Bamber Foundation (parent company) as the parent company board have majority control of Asylum Aid.

The subsidiary is used for the primary purpose of providing legal representation and access to justice for refugees and those seeking asylum. All activities have been consolidated on a line by line basis in the statement of financial activities.

A summary of the results of the subsidiary is shown below:

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2024 £	2023 £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	401,245	594,835	996,080	708,774
Charitable Activities	251,104	244,401	495,505	553,576
Other trading activities	-	124,745	124,745	117,191
Ramfel	-	38,147	38,147	57,318
Legal income	-	583,520	583,520	247,699
Other income	-	37,082	37,082	38,937
Total Income	652,349	1,622,729	2,275,078	1,723,495
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	-	69,983	69,983	46,545
Charitable Activities	684,078	900,743	1,584,821	1,156,816
Total Expenditure	684,078	970,726	1,654,804	1,203,361
Net income for the year	(31,729)	652,003	620,274	520,134
Total funds brought forward	292,746	765,343	1,058,089	537,955
Total Funds carried forward	261,017	1,417,346	1,678,363	1,058,089

Subsidiary Analysis of net assets between funds (current year)

	General unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	23,708	-	-	23,708
Net current assets	385,051	1,066,761	261,017	1,712,828
Creditors: Amounts falling due in more than one year	-	(58,174)	-	(58,174)
Net assets at 31 December 2024	408,759	1,008,587	261,017	1,678,363

Subsidiary Analysis of net assets between funds (prior year)

	General unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	13,184	-	-	13,184
Net current assets	243,919	508,240	292,746	1,044,905
Net assets at 31 December 2024	257,103	508,240	292,746	1,058,089

10 Parent charity – Helen Bamber Foundation

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross income	3,496,175	2,053,882
Result for the year	327,728	-212,135

11 Debtors

	The group		The charity Helen Bamber Foundation	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	180,039	123,070	112,518	66,275
Amounts due from group undertakings	-	-	54,090	65,280
Prepayments & other debtors	186,171	60,125	164,364	50,077
Accrued income	182,792	85,420	165,292	75,420
	549,002	268,615	496,264	257,052

12a Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	The group		The charity Helen Bamber Foundation	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	189,293	77,290	84,998	65,256
Taxation and social security	129,249	56,940	80,944	37,837
Accruals	78,107	77,793	53,887	37,574
Deferred income (note 13)	240,283	331,514	93,403	12,903
Other creditors	84,500	65,448	-	39,500
	721,432	608,985	313,232	193,070

12b Creditors: amounts falling due in more than one year

	The group		The charity Helen Bamber Foundation	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Loans	240,000	-	181,827	-
Other creditors	232,694	-	232,694	-
	472,694	-	414,521	-

13 Deferred Income

	The group		The charity Helen Bamber Foundation	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Balance at the beginning of the year	331,514	101,228	12,903	32,167
Amount released to income in the year	(204,236)	(101,228)	(12,903)	(32,167)
Amount deferred in the year	113,005	331,514	93,403	12,903
Balance at the end of the year	240,283	331,514	93,403	12,903

14a Analysis of group net assets between funds (current year)

	General unrestricted	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	23,708	1,088,082	-	1,111,790
Net current assets	975,212	1,066,761	280,955	2,322,928
Creditors: amounts falling due in more than one year	(240,000)	(232,694)	-	(472,694)
Net assets at 31 December 2024	758,920	1,922,148	280,955	2,962,024

14b Analysis of group net assets between funds (prior year)

	General unrestricted	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	36,037	-	36,037
Net current assets	944,496	701,856	331,633	1,977,985
Net assets at the end of the year	944,496	737,893	331,633	2,014,022

15a Movement group funds (current year)

	At 1 January 2024	Income & gains funds	Expenditure & losses	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£		£
Restricted funds:					
Legal protection	292,746	655,749	791,541	-	156,954
Therapy and casework	30,000	256,110	162,109	-	124,001
Community integration	8,888	77,735	86,623	-	-
Research, policy and dissemination	-	54,000	54,000	-	-
Counter Trafficking	-	-	-	-	-
New Premises Capital Appeal	-	910,179	371,490	(538,689)	-
General	-	63,000	63,000	-	-
Total restricted funds	331,633	2,016,773	1,528,762	(538,689)	280,955
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated fixed asset fund	22,853	40,302	13,274	(430)	49,451
Designated Casework-in-Progress	483,240	583,520	-	-	1,066,760
Designated Fund – Rent Free Period	-	-	232,694	-	(232,694)
Designated- New Premise Fund	218,616	280,897	-	539,119	1,038,632
Total designated funds	724,709	904,719	245,968	538,689	1,922,149
General funds	957,680	2,849,763	3,048,522	-	758,920
Total unrestricted funds	1,682,388	3,754,482	3,294,490	538,689	2,681,068
Total funds	2,014,022	5,771,254	4,823,254	-	2,962,024

15b Movements in group funds (prior year)

	At 1 January 2023	Income & gains	Expenditure & losses	Transfers	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£		£
Restricted funds:					
Legal protection			(522,857)	-	292,746
Therapy and casework			(85,269)	-	30,000
Community integration			(72,304)	-	8,888
Research, policy and dissemination			(23,320)	-	-
Counter Trafficking			(70,297)	-	-
General			(136,096)	-	-
Total restricted funds	192,403	1,049,373	(910,143)	-	331,633
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated fixed asset fund	22,147	-	(12,917)	26,807	36,037
Designated Casework-in-Progress	235,541	247,699	-	-	483,240
Designated- New Premise Fund	325,000	-	(106,384)	-	218,616
Total designated funds	582,688	247,699	(119,301)	26,807	737,893
General funds	930,932	2,480,305	(2,439,934)	(26,807)	944,496
Total unrestricted funds	1,513,620	2,728,004	(2,559,235)	-	1,682,389
Total funds	1,706,023	3,777,377	(3,469,378)	-	2,014,022

Purposes of restricted funds

Legal protection

The restricted funds for protection work are to fund legal protection and advocacy support work; providing refugee and asylum seeking clients with a fair chance at seeking justice against the perpetrators of the interpersonal violence they experienced, international protection from the government and appropriate welfare support and housing provision. This includes legal staff salaries, client travel and interpreter costs and any other associated costs of administrating and providing legal protection and advocacy support to clients.

Therapy and casework

The restricted funds for therapy and casework are to fund our therapeutic care for survivors of gross human rights violations, helping individuals and families to overcome the psychological impact of interpersonal violence and achieve sustained recovery from acute trauma symptoms, Complex Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and other resultant mental health issues. This includes clinical staff salaries, client travel and interpreter costs and associated costs of administrating referrals for our services and providing tailored support and counselling for clients.

Community integration

The restricted funds for community integration are to assist clients to become valued members of society and combine work from different areas. Mind and body work are to fund therapies which use the mutual influence of body on mind, and mind on body to facilitate healing and recovery from trauma. The programme includes acupuncture, cranio-sacral therapy, hakomi and internal family systems, movement, pilates, yoga (including pre- and post-natal), massage, breathing training and osteopathy. The restricted funds are for clinical staff salaries, equipment, volunteer costs and client travel.

The restricted funds for social wellbeing work are to fund the Creative arts programme, which includes language and skills classes and artistic and social groups for clients of the Foundation, to break isolation and aid recovery. This includes the costs of materials, client travel, volunteer expenses and the salary of the coordinating staff member.

Research, policy and dissemination

These restricted funds are to fund work on research, policy and dissemination.

Counter Trafficking

The restricted funds for counter trafficking are to enable the foundation to fund a model of integrated care for victims of human trafficking. This includes clinical staff salaries, client travel and interpreter costs and associated costs of administering referrals for our services and providing tailored support and counselling for clients.

New Premises Capital Appeal

These restricted funds are to fund work on the new premises from which the charity will operate.

Designated Fund – Rent Free Period

This fund represents the creditor balance established by the accounting treatment of the rent free period when entering a new property. The lease incentive creditor will be met by unwinding the accounting entry that was made when the creditor was set up, no cash is paid to meet this liability. The lease incentive creditor does not reduce cash available to meet ongoing costs or to meet costs associated with emerging risks. Therefore trustees believe that including this in with general funds will artificially reduce the reserves balance reported in these accounts, so this balance has been moved to a dedicated designated fund.

Purposes of designated funds

Fixed assets fund

A designated fund has been established to represent the net book value of the charity's fixed assets.

Casework in progress fund

Value of work in progress relating to legal cases at the year-end as this is a relatively illiquid asset.

Designated Fund – Rent Free Period

This fund represents the value of the rent free period which incurred at the start of the lease. The cost of the lease is shown on a straight line basis in expenditure for the life of the lease, and this designated fund will be released on an annual basis.

New Premise fund

A designated fund was set aside in 2023 for ongoing expenditure relating to the Trauma Centre and office premises, and from 2024 represents the net book value of those assets.

16 Operating lease commitments payable as a lessee

The group's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross income	129,092	30,000
Result for the year	1,721,500	-
	1,252,000	-
	<u>3,102,592</u>	<u>30,000</u>



Accounts

HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION GROUP ANNUAL REPORT

Trustees Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

FOUNDER

Helen Bamber OBE (1925 — 2014)

PRESIDENT

Emma Thompson DBE

TRUSTEES

Charlotte Seymour-Smith – Chair
(reached end of term July 2022)

John Scampion – Treasurer and Interim Chair
from July 2022

Adam Epstein – Chair from March 2023

Sir Nicolas Bratza

Patricia Chale (appointed October 2022)

Daniel Colton (appointed October 2022)

Olivia Curno (appointed October 2022)

Nina Kowalska

Nancy McCartney

Elizabeth Mottershaw

Samantha Peter

Professor Ian Watt

MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVES

Gareth Holmes — Fundraising and
Communications Director

Professor Cornelius Katona — Medical &
Research Director (honorary since July 2022)

Anne Muthee — Finance and Operations Director

Katy Robjant - Executive Director of Clinical and
Counter-Trafficking (appointed July 2022)

Kerry Smith — Chief Executive Officer

CHARITY NUMBER 1149652

COMPANY NUMBER 08186281

REGISTERED OFFICE AND OPERATIONAL ADDRESS

Bruges Place, 15-20 Baynes Street
London

NW1 0TF

AUDITOR

Sayer Vincent LLP

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors

Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane

London

EC1Y 0TL

BOARD OBSERVERS

[REDACTED] (appointed January 2022)

[REDACTED] (appointed January 2022)

BANKERS

Coutts & Co, 440 The Strand, London, WC2R 0Q

ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 December 2022



INTRODUCTION TO THE HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION GROUP

Who we are

The Helen Bamber Foundation (HBF) is a pioneering human rights charity supporting refugees and asylum seekers who are survivors of extreme human cruelty. The people we work with have been subjected to many atrocities, including state-sponsored torture, human trafficking, religious and political persecution, forced labour, sexual exploitation, and gender-based and 'honour-based' violence.

The bravery and resilience of our clients is an inspiration to all the team at HBF. In the words of our founder:

We find our reward in the eyes of those to whom we owe nothing.

Helen Bamber, OBE (1925-2014)

The Helen Bamber Foundation provides expert support for survivors of torture and trafficking. Whatever is needed – be it therapy or education; legal or medical advice; housing or employment – our services enable survivors to thrive independently. However, our work does not stop there. The expertise built with our clients generates the influence to improve global best practice so that all survivors may lead better lives with confidence and in safety.

In 2020, HBF formed the Helen Bamber Foundation Group (the Group), welcoming Asylum Aid, another human rights charity focused on survivors, which was in danger of not being able to continue its work of providing legal advice and representation. In an environment where finding any legal help, let alone expert legal help, is increasingly difficult, the expanded group offers more survivors with the support they need to protect them from persecution. *Asylum Aid works with separate individuals to those supported by the Helen Bamber Foundation, ensuring that as a Group we help more people.*

Asylum Aid is a committed, professional and collaborative charity dedicated to protecting people from persecution by providing legal representation and access to justice for refugees and those seeking asylum. Asylum Aid concentrates on complex cases of people who would struggle to get appropriate legal representation elsewhere: survivors of trafficking and torture, stateless persons and separated children. It is a key change-maker, and makes a significant contribution to policy and strategic legal review. The team also provides welfare advice to migrants and other vulnerable members of the community in Westminster, London.

Together we are innovative, ambitious and compassionate.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

HBF's staff & volunteers: a community effort

We can only provide the level of services required by our clients thanks to the dedication, professionalism and vision of our staff and volunteers. During 2022, on an average head count basis, 55 staff members (36.5 full time equivalent) of the Helen Bamber Foundation team handled the daily business of the charity, providing services directly to — and on behalf of — our clients. By the end of December 2022, the Asylum Aid team had 13 members. We were fully operational throughout 2022, delivering face to face services from our offices in Camden and in Westminster. The staff were supported by 38 volunteers, among them doctors, therapists, barristers, solicitors, administrators, artists, musicians and other specialists. We offer our heartfelt thanks to all our volunteers, without whom we would not be able to give the same breadth and depth of support to our clients. We are also grateful that Professor Cornelius Katona continues to be a member of the Helen Bamber Foundation team on a voluntary basis as our Honorary Medical and Research Director.

Management and governance

HBF is an independent charity. We are developing a group structure to maximise impact for survivors of trafficking and torture by aligning efforts with other charities that also provide much-needed support. Asylum Aid became the first member of our Helen Bamber Foundation Group (the Group) during the pandemic, due to its own financial difficulties. We will be supporting Asylum Aid as a charity to sustainably grow its impact and increase its reach. The Asylum Aid Board continues to have independent oversight, but with alignment and efficiency created through a minority of three shared board members out of a total of seven board members, joint committees and back-office support, including executive support, finance, HR, volunteer management, facilities and fundraising. The intention is to continue this incubation over the next strategy period and therefore in May 2022, HBF became the sole member of Asylum Aid. We also took the opportunity to update our [Objects](#) in September 2022 in line with changes in Charity Law. We are grateful to our lawyers at Bates, Wells and Braithwaite for their advice and assistance with this process.

To ensure independence, as well as greater impact for the group, HBF and Asylum Aid do not share clients. The Managing Executives' day-to-day management of the Group continued with the introduction of a Management Group made up of the Chief Executive, Executive Directors, Directors and Heads of Teams. A Finance and Fundraising Committee, bringing together trustees and management team members, meets at least quarterly to provide financial and fundraising governance and oversight of both HBF and Asylum Aid.

The HBF board of trustees, under the Chair, Charlotte Seymour-Smith, up until July 2022 and our interim Chair, John Scampion, thereafter, and supported by the Asylum Aid trustees, provided strong strategic oversight and governance of the Group throughout 2022. John Scampion is the Treasurer of both HBF and Asylum Aid. New trustees to both organisations are recruited externally, with their appointment approved by the Board of Trustees. An induction follows, ensuring that each new trustee is briefed as required on the Group's governance structure and decision-making processes, its obligations under charity law, the activities of HBF and Asylum Aid, and the Group's financial performance. Trustee meetings are held every quarter and sequentially. In 2021 we recruited two **Board Observers with Lived Experience, who started in their posts on 1 January 2022.**

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER & CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

During 2022, the Helen Bamber Foundation Group supported **more than 700 survivors of trafficking and torture** and 870 **vulnerable individuals** with welfare advice. Of the latter, more than 80% had backgrounds of migration or asylum or were people of colour, and 45% had a disability or long-term ill health.

122 of our clients were granted some form of protective status and 69% of the survivors that had been provided with the Helen Bamber Foundation's model of integrated care saw improvements in their wellbeing and mental health.

We also grew our support of the wider sector by building partnerships and providing training to other organisations and statutory services, enabling them to deliver the trauma-focused care and high-quality representation that survivors need. Our strategic commitment to improving the environment for survivors here in the UK and globally, beyond those we support directly, has only become more important as the impact of multiple conflicts and the cost of living crisis take effect. We have now become the home of Narrative Exposure Therapy in the UK and look forward to increasing access to this evidenced based and agile trauma treatment across the UK and internationally.

The system that survivors of trafficking and torture are placed in while they seek protection from the persecution and harm they would face if returned, is a treacherous one. More and more, the Helen Bamber Foundation sees the risk of violence, abuse, exploitation and re-trafficking amongst survivors rise because of the lack of access to basic and appropriate support. The latest move, one that punishes survivors for seeking help – the 'illegal migration' bill – challenges international human rights law and UK principles of justice as well as avoiding accountability for the ill treatment of others. However, as our founder said: *"It is easy to be a bystander and I vowed never to be one"*. Our clients, our team and our supporters refuse to forget the lessons of history, and we will remain steadfast in our humanity and our recognition of the humanity in others.

Thank you all for your ongoing support. Knowing that we are not on our own enables us to do the fantastic work laid out in this report, and also builds the spirits of the whole team and the survivors we work with. We would not be able to do any of our vital work without you, and we look forward to continuing our journey together.

Kerry Smith, CEO & Adam Epstein, Chair of Trustees, Helen Bamber Foundation

HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION GROUP'S VISION, MISSION & THEORY OF CHANGE

We believe our society will be judged by how we care for those to whom we owe nothing. We operate as human rights organisations that focus on ensuring that survivors of extreme human rights abuses have everything they need to make a sustained recovery. We know that dignity restored is strength regained.

Vision

All survivors of trafficking, torture and extreme human cruelty have safety, freedom and power.

Mission

TO SUPPORT

Our Model of Integrated Care will directly or indirectly **support** survivors of trafficking and torture across the UK and beyond. We will also protect survivors from persecution, re-trafficking, exploitation and abuse.

TO ADVOCATE

As human rights **advocates**, we are uniquely placed as a result of our expertise, research and influence. We will bear witness to the suffering of survivors and fight for their rights.

TO COLLABORATE

We **collaborate** with others, especially those with lived experience, to find solutions to the challenges facing all survivors. We support the delivery of best practice to improve the chances of recovery and prevent re-trafficking. We are a valuable partner for those seeking to influence UK, European and Global policy.

Theory of Change



HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION GROUP'S ACTIVITIES

The environment survivors face

The women, men and young people we work with typically suffer from acute psychological health conditions, severe physical injuries and medical conditions. Critically, the previously scarce resources available in NHS mental health services are no longer present – referrals from mental health services and GPs to our services have increased significantly over the past two years. Being of imminent risk to oneself is no longer a guarantee that you will be given a place in a psychiatric unit.

Compounding this, and hindering their recovery, is a fear of persecution if returned to their country of origin or other countries where they have experienced harm. The collapse of Legal Aid advice providers, and chronic and growing delays in decision-making, has left the majority of survivors without access to the specialist legal help they need to obtain protection – half of all people seeking asylum do not find legal representation and it is getting harder and harder for the Helen Bamber Foundation to find legal aid representatives for our clients.

Banned from working, survivors experience frequent and extended periods of destitution and homelessness, often multiple times, during their journey through the UK's legal systems. Furthermore, the majority of our clients are at the frontline of the collapse of the welfare net across the UK and the normalisation of precarity.

Many of our clients have spent a long time, often a lifetime, in slavery, while others have been trafficked after fleeing from human rights violations. This leaves the survivors we work with increasingly vulnerable to being re-targeted for further trafficking, exploitation and harm. HBF helps survivors to gain certainty in a challenging environment and to confront and overcome the multiple and complex traumas they have suffered, to improve their mental health, and to move forward with their lives. Given the drastically deteriorating external environment, we have to provide increased and repeated support for each client in helping them gain the strength to move on from their trauma.

We therefore bear witness, alongside the survivors we work with, to deliver meaningful policy and practice change that improves the asylum and trafficking systems, and we strive to ensure that all survivors receive the appropriate standard of care from government services and non-government services nationally and internationally. Our 2022-2024 strategy is focused on maintaining our high-quality service while driving change in the systems and services that should be giving survivors of trafficking and torture the protection and support they need.

Our response

A UNIQUE VOICE

The number of people seeking protection globally has increased significantly in 2022, not least due to the war in Ukraine. We conservatively estimate that the number of survivors who have experienced trafficking and torture in Europe is over 2 million and based on the number of people seeking asylum and those entering the National Referral Mechanism, that more than 20,000 survivors arrived in the UK in 2022.

While the majority of survivors would benefit from Helen Bamber Foundation's Model of Integrated Care and Asylum Aid's representation, not all are able to become our clients. Therefore, it is our responsibility to use the expertise we have gained, through the time spent with, and generosity of, our clients, to bear witness and:

- Drive **system change** and the implementation of best practice by sharing our learnings, through briefings and reports
- Deliver **research** to provide evidence of what works
- Support the national and international trauma recovery and human trafficking sectors and share learnings through **training** and supervision

PARTNERING WITH OTHERS

Our work is collaborative – we strengthen, and are strengthened by, the work of others. Our Chief Executive supports an informal women's leadership group for leaders of small- to medium-sized charities that facilitates time together for learning and peer support. HBF's clinicians offer peer discussion groups for other medico-legal report writers and Asylum Aid runs the Refugee Legal Group, an online peer advice system.

Creating the HBF Group with Asylum Aid has enabled both charities to support a further focus on protection from persecution. Critically, Asylum Aid works with different women, men and children to those supported by the Helen Bamber Foundation, ensuring that, as a Group, we help more people. Asylum Aid ensures that these survivors are protected and can rebuild their lives in safety and with freedom by providing high-quality legal representation for as long as it takes. In 2022, Asylum Aid worked with more than 130 vulnerable individuals and secured grants of protection for more than 70 clients.

A MODEL OF INTEGRATED CARE (MOIC)

We recognise the complexity of each client's suffering and needs, which is why HBF offers specialist services within a Model of Integrated Care. This encompasses:

THERAPY
MEDICAL ADVICE
LEGAL PROTECTION
COUNTER-TRAFFICKING SUPPORT
HOUSING & WELFARE
COMMUNITY & INTEGRATION

HBF crafts a bespoke care plan for every individual we work with, designed to enable positive recovery, protection and integration. We provide support for as long as our services are needed. The goal of the Model of Integrated Care (MOIC) is to build a lasting and sustained recovery for each of our clients. We measure the success of our Model of Integrated Care using the CORE outcome measures. In 2022, based on measures taken over the previous three years, 69% of our clients saw an improvement in their mental health.

"Today I remember the people that transformed my life. I can never forget you in my life and I am always praying for you. Thank you, 100 times."

HBF Client

DELIVERING SERVICES – MOIC

"I was stuck in a cage. So many bad things had happened to me. I was too scared to leave my body, to make plans, to go forward into my future. I just stayed, stuck, at home. I thought if I tried to do anything, something else bad would happen to me. My therapist, she just laid out my whole life for me. I saw it all before me, all the good and the bad, the flowers and the stones. We went through it all, and I saw that these things were in my past and I could go forward into my future. I could make plans, I could live and do the things I wanted to do."

HBF Client

Our commitment to those we work with directly is to place their needs at the centre of our service and continue to support them for as long as each survivor needs. This can be as short as one or two years or as long as ten or more, as recovery and safety is impacted by poor housing, lack of legal protection, inability to reunite with loved ones, and multiple other external factors.

Becoming a Helen Bamber Foundation Client

In 2022, we were able to welcome only 15%, that is 70, of the 471 survivors referred to us for our integrated service. In addition, we provided 44 survivors with Medical Legal Reports outside of our Model of Integrated Care service to support their protection claims.

The referral process requires gathering information regarding the survivor's asylum and/or trafficking claim as well as up-to-date information on their mental health. This allows our multidisciplinary team to make the best decisions with the information to hand as to which referred individual they recommend undertake assessment. Each individual is then invited for an Initial Assessment and Medical Care Assessment to confirm whether we are best placed to support them or whether another service might be better suited. Following both assessments, the case is discussed and our multidisciplinary team makes the decision to formally accept the survivor as a new client.

Once accepted, the survivor is asked to come to our office to formulate a **Client Care Plan**. The Client Care Plan appointment is survivor-centred and allows the client to lead in formulating a personalised care plan that takes into account their legal and mental health priorities, but which is informed by advice from our multidisciplinary team. It is also a space to express aspirations and goals for the future while gaining a clearer understanding of how HBF will provide support under our Model of Integrated Care.

During her Client Care Plan appointment, Delilah was told about the groups run by the Community & Integration team, such as Yoga, English club and Choir. Delilah said that she had always dreamed of being a teacher but she never learned to read or write because she couldn't go to school from a young age due to conflict. This left her with negative thoughts and doubts about her abilities. Delilah was invited to the English club after her Client Care Plan meeting and has since attended the classes in person each week and feels much more confident in her abilities and looks forward to enrolling in college.



Legal Protection

The Legal Protection team works determinedly with other departments to ensure that survivors get the specialist legal advice that enables them to receive protection in the UK. We have seen a huge increase in the number of survivors without legal representation.

George's legal status was unclear when he was referred to us, as were the details of his legal case. He had received pro bono advice previously but due to memory issues as a result of his ill-treatment and torture, could not recall what he had been advised. Once George was accepted, we obtained his file from the Home Office and previous legal representatives. We discovered that he had been refused asylum and an appeal had been lodged on his behalf. We explained the urgency to George – that he had a live appeal but no lawyer to represent him or help obtain the required medical evidence to win his case, he then gave us permission to find a lawyer. However, owing to the crisis in legal aid and the lack of legal aid lawyers, and despite our contacts across the sector, four urgent referrals were turned down for lack of capacity. After six months of searching we secured quality legal representation and George is now able to attend his appeal hearing, having obtained vital evidence in his claim and with greater confidence that he will get the protection he needs.



We provided 362 survivors with legal protection services in 2022; 49 clients received legal protection such as refugee status, humanitarian protection or discretionary leave. We continued to train expert clinicians in remote methods of examination and produced 91 expert medico-legal reports for 83 clients, to support their claims for asylum and international protection.

During 2022, HBF's Legal Protection Team continued to support survivors in their protection cases, primarily by ensuring clients had good quality, reputable legal representation, and offering second-tier immigration advice to the legal representatives representing our clients. We also supported clients to understand their legal position and gave help and advice on other emergencies surrounding legal protection needs. Additionally, we supported the clinical, counter-trafficking and other teams in writing 544 letters or supporting statements on behalf of our clients.

Medico-legal reports document the long-term physical and psychological impact of traumatic experiences and are used as evidence for international protection in the UK. Our expertise in preparing them continues to be recognised by the courts and tribunal and by the Home Office.

Our review of outcomes in 2022 showed that, following the provision of medico-legal reports in 2021, in 83% of cases the client was granted a form of leave to remain in the UK where the final outcome was known.

"I am pleased to confirm that my client's claim for asylum has been successful, and she has been granted refugee status directly from the Home Office, without the need for appeal. I have no doubt that your MLR was a significant contributing factor to the positive outcome."

Legal Representative

Therapy

The therapy team supports survivors when they are ready, and should they wish to, with **evidence-based, therapeutic interventions** to enable their recovery from trauma. For a multitude of reasons, including preoccupation with their asylum status, housing, the need to develop trust, a lack of childcare, or a preferred focus on low mood or emotional regulation, many individuals are not immediately ready for intense trauma work. We offer reviews, monitoring and stabilization to manage symptoms of low mood, develop a trusting relationship, and other interventions, such as managing panic attacks and advocating and negotiating relationships with statutory services in order to keep clients safe. These earlier interventions often meant that clients are ready to do the more intense work when their situation stabilizes. We also enable clients to move directly to trauma focussed treatment where desired. Finally, we also encourage the building of community-first with HBF and other trusted partners, and then with communities local to individuals' places of residence.

Unfortunately, due to the reduced capacity in NHS mental health provision, we have found ourselves more and more relied upon to provide critical incident response despite our non-emergency care status. We are clinical advocates who work collaboratively with other departments to resolve associated challenges such as the destitution and legal adversity that affect mental health. We advocate by calling GPs and mental health services, by attending social care meetings, by providing safeguarding information and training on clinical risk to NHS services, as well as writing 138 clinical letters in support of our clients' rights.

During 2022, the HBF therapy team offered survivors access to a range of evidence-based therapies for PTSD, including:

- Trauma-focused Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (tfCBT)
- Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing (EMDR)
- Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET)

In 2022, the therapy team provided essential support to 363 survivors with more than 2000 appointments. These included:

- More than 1300 therapy appointments were provided, of which 68% were attended, and
- 350 assessment appointments

We are building up our monitoring of clients, although it remains a challenge to capture post therapy measures with many of those we have treated, due to numerous other complexities in their lives. The recent longer delays in case determinations are also significantly affecting clients' mental health, and their ability to safely engage with trauma work. The therapy team is also frequently required to provide additional clinical evidence to document the impact of delays on our clients.

Of a sample of 10 individuals who completed evidence-based trauma therapy in 2022, and for whom we have data, 90% showed a clinically significant reduction in their PTSD symptoms.

Lisa was trafficked and endured re-trafficking on two separate occasions in the UK. Lisa was first trafficked into sex work in her country of origin to pay for medicine for an unwell relative, a situation that extended into years. In the UK, she endured many more years of exploitation, including re-trafficking by different abusers. Taken into immigration detention, Lisa felt safe, but her identity as a survivor of trafficking was missed and upon her release she was re-trafficked. When Lisa came to the Helen Bamber Foundation, she could not stop crying and had no confidence. Scared to speak, she would agree to whatever was suggested to her. Lisa was also pregnant; and while HBF supported her with her pregnancy and birth, sometimes Lisa was unable to look after her child safely and would run out of the house when she had flashbacks. Lisa and the child were taken into care. After receiving support to work with social services, and securing evidence to support her claim for asylum, Lisa was after some months able to live alone with her child again. Following therapy, Lisa no longer experiences dissociation and flashbacks; she says she no longer feels her body shutting down. Lisa is a kind and attentive parent and has been discharged from social care due to her rapid progress. Her goal is to give her child the happy childhood she was denied.



Medical Advice

In 2022, the main parts of HBF's medical advice services were separated into two distinct strands: the Medical Advisory Service (MAS), and the Medico-Legal Report (MLR) writing medical services. The aim is to continue to develop the work of the Medical Advisory Service but to allow for the development of a stronger community of medical practitioners with HBF's medico-legal services, particularly in the supervision, training, retention and consideration of the wellbeing of MLR writers.

The MAS service is run by our Head of Medical Advisory Service, who leads four volunteer GPs as well as a volunteer physiotherapist and psychiatrist. MAS's routine work helps clients to understand, stabilise and improve their health by carrying out medical assessments and allowing time for comprehensive discussions and explanations of their health concerns, as well as liaising with external services, particularly the NHS, to support their needs. In 2022, MAS has continued to adapt and grow as it balances remote and face-to-face work with clients. During the course of 2022, MAS supported 142 clients.

MAS also continued to work closely with HBF's volunteers to overcome the huge barriers to healthcare that remote working within the NHS – alongside language barriers and digital and phone poverty – created for our clients.

"I just want to say hello to you and to thank you for all the help that you did for me last year, I really appreciate your effort in my life. You turned my life around and you made me comfortable among people. I can't thank you enough."

HBF Client

Housing and Welfare

HBF's specialist housing and welfare casework ensures that clients' practical, everyday needs are met and that social deprivation, including street homelessness and destitution, are avoided through timely and often emergency interventions. The impact of delays in decision-making is also having a terrible impact on the housing of our clients, with many more people housed indefinitely in unsuitable hotels, left isolated and with very limited financial support. This, coupled with the impact of the cost of living rises in basic goods, means that more and more of our clients are finding it increasingly difficult to maintain basic nutrition and good health. During this year, the Housing and Welfare team provided more than 10,000 interventions with, or on behalf of, our clients,

The team remains focused on resolving homelessness and destitution, but we act on a wide variety of issues affecting our clients. We use compassion, expert knowledge and experience to navigate and succeed in this often complex casework. During 2022 we resolved 558 instances of 323 survivors being threatened with homeless or actively homeless people being threatened with destitution or actively destitute, or people in situations of unsuitable accommodation (including disrepair, shared bedrooms, risk of violence and abuse from others).

- 50% of these were resolved in less than 1 month, and
- 84% were resolved within 3 months.

In 2022, the Housing and Welfare team raised a total of £55,204.32 from small grants provided by other charities on behalf of clients in need. This benefited 75 clients, whose households encompassing 150 people in total, and has provided these people with a lifeline in many ways. They have received subsistence support where the state has no duty to support them (i.e. for those refused asylum entirely) or where they are impacted by punitive welfare reform measures (i.e. the benefit cap, two-child limit), and where people are finally housed somewhat stably and safely but in unfurnished accommodation, and so will likely either live without essential household furniture for some time, or not meet their basic needs (especially for families) without additional support. One such grant was from a funder we had not previously applied for, Cash for Kids. We applied for a block grant to distribute among clients with children and we were issued with £980. To clients with children, we issued vouchers of £35 per child, prioritising those without immigration status, and single parents affected by the benefit cap and other punitive welfare reform. This provided a lifeline to 18 households, benefiting 28 children in total.

Finally, in addition to helping clients to claim more than £100,000 in benefits owed, without needing to formally challenge the DWP's decisions made on their case, we also assisted clients to legally challenge and appeal incorrect decisions made about their claims, usually for disability benefits. We did the initial work of requesting a mandatory reconsideration and then drafted and lodged the grounds of appeal itself, and then worked closely with good legal advice agencies who advised and represented clients before the Social Security Tribunal.

In 2022, we helped 21 clients successfully challenge incorrect benefit decisions, leading to just over £80,000 being paid out in backdated payments.

"Every day, I wake up in my studio flat. I am very happy and I sit down and remember when I was sleeping rough in the street. This makes me know that Helen Bamber Foundation has turned my life to good, because I did not know that my life could be good like this. What surprises me the most is that everybody in my church keeps on telling me "you look so much better than before". Also, one lady told me that she has known me for a long time, but she has never seen my laugh, but now I do laugh. Everybody says it."

HBF Client

Counter-Trafficking

The HBF Counter-Trafficking Programme delivers intricate, intensive and person-specific contact and safeguarding for survivors to support them through the many difficulties they face. The Counter-Trafficking department is also central to HBF's strategy to prevent and end re-trafficking.

We support survivors to re-build lives, emphasising personal strength and resources to meet the many challenges they face, including building self-esteem and agency for use against those who would re-traffic, exploit and abuse survivors. At the core of the Helen Bamber Foundation's Counter-Trafficking Programme is the principle of ensuring that our clients – adults who have suffered all forms of human trafficking – remain safe from any traffickers or abusers. We achieve this by building trusting relationships and proactively working with survivors to continuously identify, understand and monitor their specific risks and fears. In this way, we can more easily detect and address any concerning change of circumstances with the survivor in a trauma-informed way.

It is important to note that the likelihood and severity of a client's risk is rarely static; a person's situation can rapidly change, requiring a trusting, long-term professional relationship to recognise the nuances of their presentation during each interaction. We create a safe and collaborative 'circle' of professionals around each of our clients. This enables each person to feel empowered and supported in whichever way is most suitable for them. As part of this, our team regularly supports survivors to overcome the difficult step of engaging with the police and/or victim navigators, as well as advocating with Modern Slavery Victim Care Contract support workers for positive outcomes. In 2022, just under half of all survivors supported by the Helen Bamber Foundation were survivors of trafficking. Across the Counter-Trafficking Programme:

- 124 clients (78 women and 46 men) from across countries in Africa, Asia and Central Europe were provided with specialist support from the Counter-Trafficking team due to their high level of vulnerability as victims of trafficking.
- The team provided 51 pieces of documentation, letters and/or witness statements for legal procedures within asylum, immigration, the NRM, criminal justice and matters relating to social welfare, vocational endeavours and housing needs.
- The Counter-Trafficking team conducted 215 client appointments (safety checks and trafficking assessments) and further 636 welfare calls over the year.
- On average, at any one time, approximately 20-25% of the team's caseload involved working with clients facing immediate risks relating to trafficking, exploitation or violence.

Arben is a young Albanian who was referred to HBF by NHS mental health services due to his significant mental health symptoms and risk of further exploitation. Arben had been trafficked by a criminal gang as a child into the UK and suffered sexual and labour exploitation for many years. When Arben was referred to HBF, he was homeless and destitute, leading him to stay occasionally with people whom we considered posed a serious risk to his safety. Having received negative asylum decisions as a child, Arben believed no-one could help; his self-esteem was very low and he frequently felt suicidal. Due to his high risk of suicide and absence of any legal processes, Arben was unable to secure accommodation through hosting organisations. To address this key problem, HBF spent months working with a solicitor to have the negative decision regarding his identity as a trafficking survivor overturned. This was successful and led to, with considerable advocacy due to limited spaces, safe house accommodation and financial assistance.

During 2022, the counter-trafficking team made 221 interventions on Arben's behalf. Arben is now successfully engaged in HBF's therapy and started attending several classes provided or arranged by our Community and Integration team. His confidence has grown hugely and both his perceived and real sense of safety has improved. Recently, Arben was recognised as a survivor of trafficking and given limited leave to remain, while his asylum claim is considered.



Community and Integration

Through the Community and Integration Programme, our clients can engage in activities unrelated to their trauma, and form safe and positive relationships with others in a similar position. They learn new skills and develop confidence and independence. This is a key part of our model of integrated care that ensures our clients have the strength to move on. We continued to increase our face-to-face activities in 2022.

In 2022, HBF's community and integration activities supported a total of 239 clients. With many other social opportunities closed off due to the pandemic, the team focused on providing access to further and higher education, resulting in:

- 1 client enrolled at university and was granted a sanctuary scholarship
- 101 clients attending further education courses in great part due to a successful new partnership with Mary Ward College
- 74 clients attended our Creative Arts and Skills groups in 2022
- 25 clients supported to access a gym membership through Better Gym partnership

Since the pandemic we have been working in consultation with our clients, to build attendance at our groups. This work is vital in breaking down isolation and enabling our clients to build the networks that are key to their recovery and is a key asset in our clinical work.

When Alex came to HBF five years ago, he did not feel ready to re-engage with formal education as he had a lot on his mind due to the stress around his application for asylum. Instead, we suggested he use our partnership to access a Better Gym membership. Exercise has been hugely significant in Alex's recovery and he has also been a regular member of our yoga group and was helped to access a bicycle. After a couple of years, Alex felt ready to get back into education, even though there was still no progress in his asylum application and we supported him to enroll in a Level 1 Information, Computing and Technology course at the African Community School and find funding to cover his fees. We also helped him find a scheme to access refurbished laptops and Alex became one of our Ambassadors for Change [see below]. In 2022, Alex was supported to progress to Level 2 English at the African Community School and also received refugee status. He is now considering Higher Education and a career as a Quantity Surveyor.



"These groups have taken me out of a stressful feeling. It is a way to busy my time and to feel more relaxed. It helps me through my difficult times. Gives me a positive mind and makes me proud. I go to yoga, make friends, and meet people with the same background as me. It's like you've got someone to share the pain with you, you feel like they understand you. The Community Group gives me the chance to make friends, meet people and talk to people. It is because of this that my mental health is better now – otherwise I would be in a worse situation."

Alex, HBF Client

Graduation

Through the Model of Integrated Care, HBF clients are offered trauma-informed and specialist support. There is no set period of time for how long the foundation works with survivors; the care they receive from our service is specific to their needs and is for as long as required. We believe that regaining independence is an important aspect of moving forward and we provide ongoing assistance and support until we are confident that individuals are on their feet again. We work with survivors to ensure that by the time they are ready to leave our service, they have the power, safety, and freedom to successfully move on. It is at this point that survivors are graduated from our service. We hold a monthly graduation meeting to consider which clients meet our graduation criteria. After this, a decision will be made regarding extending an invitation to attend a pre-graduation review meeting, where the client will have the chance to speak to their readiness for graduation. Successful completion of the review results in a formal graduation, with the client receiving a graduation letter outlining the support they have received from HBF and tailored signposting information. This process allows us to assure ourselves of recovery but also to provide support to more individuals at the beginning of their journey. In 2022, 60 clients graduated from our service.

"I'm so grateful for all the support I've received from Helen Bamber over the years, it really has been like a family too me. I'm glad that someone else will be given the same opportunities I was lucky enough to receive"

HBF Client

Engagement and Activism

Engagement at HBF exists to recognise survivors' expertise by experience, and we work to ensure that survivors have increased power in the face of the inequalities they experience. We amplify their voices so that they can participate in decisions that affect them. We are committed to supporting survivors to advocate for the policy changes that matter most to them, and to ensuring survivors can engage in the design and shaping of the service we offer.

SERVICE DESIGN

Since 2017, the Helen Bamber Foundation's dialogue with survivors about service design has centered around a Service User Group, now called the Client Voices Forum. Since the pandemic, we have ring-fenced capacity for engagement work with clients, to actively involve survivors in service design and to ensure their views are considered by organisational decision-makers. Since the pandemic, recent matters on which we have consulted with survivors have included:

- A review of pandemic-related service changes and future focus
- The Foundation's anti-racism action planning
- Legal services support
- The inclusivity of language used about survivors by the Foundation in our communications

Between 2022 and 2024, we intend to conduct a comprehensive client-services review in tandem with the survivors that we support, to ensure that the client journey offered by the HBF is fit for purpose. This will be coordinated to ensure the lived experience of survivors is included at each stage of the review.

In January 2022, we brought two people into a new role onto the Board of Trustees – that of **Board Observer**. The Board Observers contribute their knowledge, experience and expertise to support Trustees' strategic decision-making. This has provided much-needed direct insight, helping Board members to understand the potential impact of their proposals for the client group at HBF. Originally, these roles were to last for two years but have been extended to three, based on the learning in the first year of this programme. The Board Observers have successfully advised on key strategic processes including, but not limited to, key decisions around HBF's new premises and also as members of the recruitment panel for the new Chair of Trustees.

AMBASSADORS FOR CHANGE

In 2022, the Ambassadors for Change leadership programme, which was launched in 2021, undertook a mapping, including consulting with other HBF clients and attending workshops to support their understanding of London-based services and stakeholders across the areas of housing, disability support and mental health provision for survivors. In March 2022, the Ambassadors attended a three-day intensive residential meeting, where they established their objectives. They then worked on creating broad advocacy plans to support these objectives. Initially, the Ambassadors undertook research and scoping themselves. However, following a progress review, the group decided to spend resources on bringing in a consultant to undertake the necessary research and analysis to enable fortnightly decision-making on the final advocacy plan and strategy. In addition, the Ambassadors decided to recruit new members and also undertook training to develop their leadership, project management and meeting skills, including interpersonal communication, time management, meeting planning/preparation, objective-setting, and accountability training.

Asylum Aid Services –protection from persecution

To increase the scope of our work and protect more people at a time when securing quality Legal Aid representation is increasingly difficult for survivors, bringing Asylum Aid into the HBF Group enabled us to support our aim of increasing protection for survivors. Asylum Aid ensures that survivors are protected and can rebuild their lives by providing high-quality legal representation for survivors in order to establish their safety and freedom. Asylum Aid works with separate individuals to those supported by the Helen Bamber Foundation, ensuring that as a Group we help more people.

In 2022, the team provided legal representation to more than 130 survivors of trafficking, torture and gender-based violence, refugees and people seeking asylum, and stateless persons. Through the hard work of our expert team of caseworkers, 73 of our clients were granted protection during the year, and 15 clients were recognised as victims of trafficking.

Recognising that complex cases require time, the Asylum Aid team listen closely to every individual client to make sure we understand as much as we can of their experiences. As a result, we have an above-average success rate for our clients – 79% of initial decisions we received from the Home Office were grants of status (slightly above the national success rate of 76%) – giving them the best chance of securing the protection they need.

The team also provided welfare advice to more than 879 individuals through the Westminster Advice Services Partnership. Asylum Aid's welfare advice team specialises in providing advice to migrant communities in Westminster, many of whom do not have English as a first language. Our advisers and volunteers are multilingual and we work with volunteer community interpreters. In 2022, 80% of those receiving welfare support from Asylum Aid were either migrants and/or people of colour, and more than 45% had a disability or long-term ill health. Across the year, Asylum Aid secured more than £962,000 in additional support for its clients.

May is an asylum seeker whose nationality is disputed. She was born in Eritrea and believes herself to be Eritrean national, but the Home Office considers her to be Ethiopian. She came to the UK in 2011 and claimed asylum. Her initial application was refused, her appeal dismissed, and a subsequent four further submissions rejected without a right of appeal. The Home Office did not accept that her life would be in danger in Eritrea, and did not consider her to be at risk if removed to Ethiopia. She struggled to find legal representation to make a judicial review application, which was her only legal remedy. Asylum Aid assisted her in making an application for a judicial review, challenging the Home Office's refusal of her fresh application for asylum on the basis of the Home Office's failures and flaws in the decision-making process. The Tribunal granted permission on all grounds and the Home Office agreed to reconsider the decision to refuse May's asylum and agreed to make a new decision. Asylum Aid also assisted May in her modern slavery claim. Despite clear indicators of being subjected to labour exploitation as a child disclosed in her Home Office interview in 2011, May had not been identified as a victim before she was referred to Asylum Aid. We ensured that she was referred into the National Referral Mechanism, and she subsequently received a positive initial decision on her trafficking claim. She is now receiving essential support as a potential victim of human trafficking.



In 2023:

Despite the increasingly uncertain environment that survivors find themselves in, and the changing legal environment in which our team provide support, the HBF Group will continue to increase our direct impact through delivery of best practice services and collaborate with others to:

- Ensure accountability where necessary through strategic legal work to challenge new policy and legislation where it unlawfully impacts upon the survivors we work with
- Increase access to legal protection for survivors of trafficking and torture, focussing on areas where there is little access to legal services by:
 - Increasing the number of clients that Asylum Aid accepts, and
 - Developing further supervision and support partnerships
- Grow partnerships to improve access to evidence-based treatment for survivors of trafficking and torture globally
- Seek to ensure that the rights of survivors of trafficking and torture to protection and rehabilitation are retained and improved rather than abandoned

CREATING SYSTEM CHANGE – STRATEGIC CHALLENGE, POLICY, RESEARCH AND BEST PRACTICE PARTNERSHIP

Strategic Legal Work

The Helen Bamber Foundation group engages in strategic legal work where it seeks to improve the legal systems (for international protection and counter-trafficking), further the rights of our clients and increase their access to justice. At a time when the right to challenge executive power through the rule of law is being actively undermined by this government, the Helen Bamber Foundation Group is committed to ensuring scrutiny of government policy and practice when there are negative impacts upon the survivors we work with.

To this end, in April 2022 Asylum Aid took the lead in **challenging the Home Office's policy of relocating 'inadmissible' asylum seekers to Rwanda** for their asylum claims to be processed there. Rather than simply attempting to replicate the expected policy of "offshoring" (on the lines practiced in Australia for several years with disastrous effects), this policy is more radical, effectively shifting responsibility for considering asylum claims and for providing protection to those who need it away from the UK altogether by transferring such responsibility to the Rwandan authorities.

As the policy began to be implemented through April and May 2022, we became increasingly concerned about the way in which the Home Office was rushing people through the system towards being sent to Rwanda. Newly-arrived asylum seekers, often in detention, were given as little as seven or 14 days to respond to a 'Notice of Intent' to send them to Rwanda. This impossibly short period was manifestly inadequate for asylum seekers to understand what was being proposed, get effective access to legal advice, and make representations on all the myriad issues raised by the Notice. Once the seven-day period had expired, the Home Office could go ahead and make a series of decisions leading to removal, giving only five working days for asylum seekers to get access to court to challenge their removal.

In June 2022, Asylum Aid commenced judicial review proceedings, arguing that this process is inherently unfair and incompatible with the right to access to justice. We worked collaboratively with other NGOs and lawyers representing individuals threatened with removal, sharing our legal arguments and collating evidence of the unfair outcomes that resulted from this rushed procedure. The judicial review proceedings were linked with a series of other challenges to the Rwanda policy and heard by the High Court in September and October 2022. Our claim was unfortunately dismissed in December 2022 but Asylum Aid were given permission to appeal to the Court of Appeal and the hearing took place in April 2023.

In 2022, HBF continued to be involved with strategic litigation that looks to challenge various government policies affecting our client group. Some of these challenges related to trafficking survivors whose asylum claims were deemed inadmissible, effectively penalizing them for 'not coming directly' to the United Kingdom even though they would have been under the control of traffickers. Other challenges related to the detention of our client group and, in particular, the intersection of their vulnerabilities as a result of their trafficking experiences and any disabilities they may have.

We were also involved at the Court of Appeal stage in providing guidance and understanding in a follow-up case to KV (Sri Lanka), which considered specifically how psychiatric evidence should be treated in asylum claims. In most of these challenges, we were asked to provide witness statements or information to help the lawyers formulate their legal arguments, however many settled before a hearing. However, one case in which we provided a witness statement related to differential support rates for those in various types of accommodation (i.e. asylum support accommodation, safe houses etc...). The statement was provided by Zoe Dexter, HBF's housing and welfare manager, and led to a successful challenge to the Home Office's unequal treatment of asylum seekers. This resulted in the support rates for survivors of trafficking being aligned so that all survivors received the highest level of financial support available to them, irrespective of their accommodation status.

Asylum Aid has also developed a legal challenge against the **growing backlog in asylum decision-making** that we have witnessed over the last few years. This has now become acute – by December 2022, there were more than 100,000 people who had waited longer than six months for a decision on their asylum claims. As well as the serious impact, both on survivors' wellbeing and their ability to secure protection and rebuild their lives in dignity, the long delays and uncertainty over when decisions would be taken affects the legal sector's capacity to take on more clients. It undoubtedly contributes to the challenges of securing safe and decent accommodation for those waiting for asylum decisions. We therefore identified challenging delays as a priority. Working with counsel and our clients, Asylum Aid developed a legal case challenging the Home Office's systemic failure to comply with the requirement in the Immigration Rules to provide an explanation for a delay of more than six months and to give a realistic timescale for a decision on request. To demonstrate the systemic nature of the issue, we provided evidence relating to 22 of our clients. This claim was issued on behalf of one of Asylum Aid's clients in December 2022 and is pending.

Policy Influencing

In 2022, this government pushed through legislation that fundamentally undermined the systems of protection for refugees and survivors of trafficking in this country, while ramping up hostile rhetoric about those arriving in the UK by small boat and claiming that people were 'abusing' the modern slavery system. Additionally, in its response to the war in Ukraine, the government made a clear separation between the need to support fleeing Ukrainians and the punitive system provided for others seeking asylum.

Much of our efforts were therefore focussed on lobbying to try mitigate some of the worst parts of the **Nationality and Borders Bill**. We briefed as HBF and in collaboration with the Asylum Reform Initiative, as well as leading on raising the concerns of the [Taskforce on Victims of Trafficking in Immigration Detention](#) ('Detention Taskforce') and the [Refugee and Migrant Children's Consortium](#), both of which we co-chair. Our Ambassadors for Change also spoke to Peers about the risks of re-trafficking if refugees are given lesser protection and support.

We worked with cross-party parliamentarians to keep the pressure on the government and hold it to account through media articles, letters from the sector, briefing events, meetings with Ministers and amendments to the Bill. Our [briefings](#) were cited repeatedly by MPs and Peers during Bill debates and we saw an unprecedented number of amendments passed in the House of the Lords, a really strong sign of opposition.

The Bill passed but a few small wins were secured as a result of the anti-trafficking sector's lobbying, such as additional protection of child victims of trafficking; confirmed survivors of trafficking being given 12 months of tailored support; and improvements to the offer of legal aid. In addition, on age assessments, the subsequent draft Home Office guidance took a much more measured approach than the Bill, a reflection of the strength of opposition, which also led to the government committing to a number of safeguards around the possible use of 'scientific methods'.

Our influencing strategy is focused on key areas of relevance to the survivors we work with:

LEGAL PROTECTION

The Nationality and Borders Act introduced a **'two-tier' system** whereby refugees whose asylum claims are successful are treated differently based on how they reached the UK, with 'group 2 refugees' (in essence those who came to the UK by land and boat) granted only a temporary form of status with restricted rights to family reunification and financial support.

In June, the Home Office published [guidance](#) implementing this and other changes. HBF and Asylum Aid had submitted detailed comments on drafts of this guidance and were pleased to see that nearly all of our comments were incorporated, including: a new section on 'The effect of trauma on memory and disclosure'; details of how to rebut a finding that you are a 'group 2' refugee; and clarity that 'group 2' refugees will be granted temporary refugee protection [with recourse to public funds](#). This was a significant improvement on the draft guidance, and a huge relief for HBF clients.

HBF shared [two briefings](#) outlining ongoing problems with the **asylum interview process** and recommendations for improvement with the Home Office and we worked with civil servants to develop a trauma-informed approach to interviews.

The Home Office's new [policy on immigration reporting](#) included significantly reduced obligations on people seeking asylum to report face to face, after campaigning from HBF, Migrants Organise, Bail for Immigration Detainees and the Public Law Project.

Jointly with Asylum Aid, HBF [submitted evidence to the House of Lords International Agreements Committee](#) inquiry on the **Rwanda Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** – we were pleased to see the [Committee then strongly criticise the MoU](#), for containing assurances and protections that are not enforceable, and also the government, for using an MoU rather than formal treaty to avoid parliamentary scrutiny.

HBF and Asylum Aid also responded to the **'Bill of Rights Bill'** and worked on the crisis in the **provision of legal aid-funded advice** for both asylum and trafficking cases.

A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

HBF has continued to oppose the opening of a new **accommodation centres** while engaging with the Home Office to ensure that in Napier, and in any centres that do open, the most vulnerable are not accommodated and that all residents have access to face-to-face legal advice and healthcare – our new report, '[Like a prison](#)', summarised HBF's learning from Napier and Penally and research on the impact of this form of accommodation. During the Nationality and Borders Bill debates, HBF's evidence of the health implications of putting people in barracks and the need for appropriate medical care was [repeatedly cited](#).

Creating a new working group with the Home Office, we secured a number of operational improvements to the provision of **legal advice in Napier**, including improved information and facilities for residents, and highlighted the need to ensure face-to-face advice is available to everyone. And

In August, it was announced that the [plans for an accommodation centre in Linton-on-Ouse were being abandoned](#). As HBF, we had worked as part of a small coalition to raise concerns in parliament and with the Home Office and to share information with local campaigners – this was a significant victory for all involved. We were also pleased to see that the planning application for the change of use of buildings at RAF Coltishall in Norfolk to an initial assessment centre for the accommodation of asylum seekers was withdrawn. HBF had repeatedly [highlighted concerns](#) that this accommodation is inherently unsuitable.

With Asylum Matters, Medical Justice and Ripon City of Sanctuary, we aired concerns regarding the new **Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill**, which would give substantial powers to the Secretary of State to approve development on Crown Land in England (such as asylum 'accommodation centres' or immigration detention facilities) and bypass current local planning controls.

HBF also worked with the Home Office on plans for **alternatives to accommodation** centres. In response to the [Home Office consultation on asylum accommodation and dispersal](#), we outlined what needs to be considered when looked at providing community accommodation in new areas, and called on the Home Office to establish a set of minimum standards for dispersal areas to be used as an ongoing reference tool.

The **low rates of financial support** provided to our clients can cause them considerable distress and add to their low self-esteem and mental health problems. We submitted detailed evidence to a Home Office [consultation on asylum support rates](#) in the Summer and we were very pleased to see the [High Court rule](#) in December, in a judgment that recognised the role of NGOs in calling for rates to be increased, for support to increase to £45 per week (£9.10 in full board accommodation). The change is welcome but does not go far enough and we will continue to push a level of support that meets our clients' needs.

RECOVERY AND INTEGRATION

Working with the Royal College of Psychiatrists, we drafted [amendments to the Nationality and Borders Bill](#) that would place a duty on the Home Secretary to introduce codes of practice for assessing the mental and physical health needs of any asylum seeker, and [for a trauma-informed approach](#) to the assessments of people subject to immigration control. These were [supported by the Labour and Liberal Democrat Home Office frontbenches](#) and allowed for debate on the ways in which the Home Office is currently failing to address the physical and mental health needs of people seeking asylum. The [government's response](#) cited HBF's Trauma-informed Code of Conduct and committed to ***"build on this approach in updated published guidance, ensuring that decision-makers have the tools to recognise the effect that traumatic events can have on people's ability to accurately recall, share or recognise such events"***.

THE PREVENTION OF RE-TRAFFICKING

HBF has delivered key international and national publications and research projects, as well as the development of a wider counter-trafficking community of practice with national and international experts from fields connected to counter-trafficking.

As well as producing [briefings](#) on the impact of the Nationality and Borders Bill on survivors of trafficking who are held in immigration detention, as the Detention Taskforce we also highlighted concerns regarding [the introduction of the Immigration Enforcement Competent Authority](#). Together, these reflect a desire by government to detain and remove, rather than identify and protect, more survivors of trafficking.

Over this period, we also saw a ramping up of hostile Tory rhetoric about survivors of trafficking. Just as the concept of 'bogus asylum seekers' has been used over the years by successive governments to justify punitive laws and policies, the Conservative government has now decided that [it is victims of slavery that are 'abusing the system'](#), with a particular focus on Albanian men arriving in small boats. We have consistently [pushed back on this](#), including with letters that resulted in the Statistics Regulator [publicly reprimanding the Home Office](#) for misusing modern slavery data, and the UN Special Rapporteurs issuing a strong [joint statement on the government's hostile rhetoric and un evidenced claims about survivors of trafficking](#).

HBF's [new report on survivors of trafficking in detention](#) offered a [timely rebuttal of the government's hostile rhetoric](#) – highlighting that more than 90% of cases referred to the National Referral Mechanism are confirmed to be victims of trafficking. There is [no evidence of a process being abused](#) – rather, people who have already been exploited and mistreated are experiencing further abuse by an immigration system that is not fit for purpose.

The report, which was co-badged by Medical Justice, FLEX and ATLEU, highlighted that the number held in immigration detention each year has tripled from 500 in 2017 to over 1,600 last year. Even when identified as possible victims of trafficking, people are not being released and are detained while waiting for a final decision in their case. The average time for making these decisions is a staggering 17 months.

We also provided [evidence to the Justice Select Committee](#) on the Victims Bill, calling for protections for all victims and secure reporting for those with uncertain immigration status, and were pleased to see the Committee call for a firewall between police and Immigration Enforcement in its [final report on the Bill](#).

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

In 2022, Asylum Aid and HBF took over co-chairing the Refugee and Migrant Children's Consortium, a coalition of more than 80 organisations working to promote and protect the rights of young refugees and migrants. This group has worked on age disputes, delays in children's cases and inappropriate accommodation for children. Data we collected was used in *The Guardian* and *The New Statesman*; in evidence to the Home Affairs Select Committee; and by Baroness Lister to secure a debate in the House of Lords on the risk that some of these children could also be removed to Rwanda.

As well as providing detailed comments on the draft Home Office guidance on 'Processing Children's Asylum Claims', the RMCC secured a regular standalone meeting with the Home Office to discuss practical steps to improve decision-making in children's cases, including the simplification of the 'Statement of Evidence' form that children need to complete; recruitment of specialist senior caseworkers; and more decisions made on the papers (so without the need to interview children).

RESEARCH AND DISSEMINATION

We spoke at several conferences during the year. Critically, our feasibility and pilot study of Narrative Exposure Therapy in the treatment of survivors of trafficking has been published. The results provide strong support for a full-scale trial.

We currently have the following projects ongoing:

- **Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET):** We are currently negotiating to integrate a NET-based study into a larger grant application with colleagues at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (see below).
- **Systematic review of juju/witchcraft as a form of control by human traffickers:** The qualitative study of the lived experience of such juju rituals in the context of human trafficking is near completion.
- **The mental health impact of statelessness:** Dr Francesca Brady continues to progress three related qualitative projects with doctoral psychology trainees in collaboration with Asylum Aid. We are progressing (albeit slowly) the planning for a collaborative funding bid with a European consortium in collaboration with Dr Brady. This possibility has been enhanced by Alison Pickup (Asylum Aid Director) being appointed a Senior Visiting Practitioner at the Administrative Fairness Lab, based in the Law Department at the University of York, where the Head of Department (Prof Joe Tomlinson) has an interest in the area.
- **The mental and physical health impact of quasi-detention (i.e. barracks and other contingency asylum accommodation):** We are still slowly approaching completion of this systematic review, which has proved larger and more complex than anticipated. Recent political developments have however made the work even more relevant.
- **The process of home office interviewing:** We are continuing to progress this (funded) collaborative study with the University of Birmingham to identify good and less good practice in such interviews and to prepare recommendations for audit and training.
- **Trust in survivors of human trafficking:** A qualitative study is still under way.

In 2022, we also published the following articles:

- Sen, P., Waterman, L. Z., Crowley, G., Pillay, M., & Katona, C. (2022). [Clinicians caring for migrants need more support](#). *BMJ-BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, 377, ARTN e071007. doi:10.1136/bmj-2022-071007
- Waterman, L. Z., Arnold, F., Pillay, M., & Katona, C. (2022). [Home Office and detention centre healthcare providers must do their own research and service evaluation](#). *The BMJ*. doi:10.1136/bmj.o909
- Waterman, L. Z., Pillay, M., Sen, P., Crowley, G., Forrester, A., & Katona, C. (2022). [It is time to expand community alternatives to immigration detention](#). *BMJ-BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, 376, ARTN o458. doi:10.1136/bmj.o458

- Kaufman, K. R., Bhui, K., & Katona, C. (2022). [Mental health responses in countries hosting refugees from Ukraine](#). *BJPSYCH OPEN*, 8 (3), ARTN e87. doi:10.1192/bjo.2022.55
- Evans, H., Sadhwani, S., Singh, N., Robjant, K., & Katona, C. (2022). [Prevalence of complex post-traumatic stress disorder in survivors of human trafficking and modern slavery: a systematic review](#). *EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PSYCHIATRY*, 36 (2), 94-105. doi:10.1016/j.ejpsy.2022.01.005
- Chisholm, A., Mark, I., Unigwe, S., & Katona, C. (2022). [Rituals as a Control Mechanism in Human Trafficking: Systematic Review and Thematic Synthesis of Qualitative Literature](#). *Journal of Human Trafficking*. doi:10.1080/23322705.2022.2062563
- Chaffelson, R., Smith, J. A., Katona, C., & Clements, H. (2022). [The challenges faced during home office interview when seeking asylum in the United Kingdom: an interpretative phenomenological analysis](#). *ETHNIC AND RACIAL STUDIES*. doi:10.1080/01419870.2022.2112255
- Sen, P., Crowley, G., Arnell, P., Katona, C., Pillay, M., Waterman, L. Z., & Forrester, A. (2022). [The UK's exportation of asylum obligations to Rwanda: A challenge to mental health, ethics and the law](#). *MEDICINE SCIENCE AND THE LAW*, 62 (3), 165-167. doi:10.1177/00258024221104163
- Katona, C. (2022). [When They Came for Me](#). *INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF PSYCHIATRY*. doi:10.1080/09540261.2022.2073201
- Maloney C and Katona C Interpreting Assessment Findings. Chapter 6 in Seeking Asylum and Mental Health. Cambridge University Press 2022
- Rihmer, Z., Döme, P., & Katona, C. (2022). Serotonin and depression-a riposte to Moncrieff et al.(2022). *Neuropsychopharmacologia Hungarica: a Magyar Pszichofarmakologiai Egyesület Lapja*= Official Journal of the Hungarian Association of Psychopharmacology, 24(3), 120-125.

Partnership and Best Practice Collaborations

Our work is collaborative – we strengthen, and are strengthened by, the work of others. Our partnership with Young Roots continues to go from strength to strength. A review of the work that had taken place between April 2019 and March 2022 showed the majority of young people presented with moderate, moderate to severe or severe clinical symptoms. Following interventions, we saw significant reductions to symptoms of mood and anxiety. In 2022, we secured funding to extend the project to include additional support into South London. We continue to be proud of the work taking place under this partnership and continue to look to extend the learning to other partners.

In 2022 HBF completed the survivor-driven [Modern Slavery Core Outcome Set \(MSCOS\) academic study alongside partners, Kings College London, Survivor Alliance, University of East London and University of Nottingham Rights Lab](#). The study was funded by the Modern Slavery Policy and Evidence Centre (MSPEC) which is known for its fusion of academics, practitioners and survivor leaders, for UK funded research studies. The study arrived at a Modern Slavery Core Outcome Set, which includes 7 key Core Outcomes, all selected by survivors and practitioners as being vital for the recovery, well-being and integration of survivors of modern slavery.

The MSCOS Community of Practice is co-led by the MSCOS Research Advisory Board which is comprised of a diverse range of Survivor-Leaders. It is a community of practitioners, based nationally and internationally which provides content on a subscription basis for sector partners and is based on the National Referral Mechanism Handbook – and it represents a ‘theory into practice’ approach. The MSCOS Community of Practice provides weekly email updates for subscribers which feature interviews, quotes and information on best practice in current operation.

The MSCOS website, [MSCOS.co.uk](https://www.mscos.co.uk), showcases practice models and frameworks which are multi-agency, multi-disciplinary, trauma-informed and which are focused on action. It enables sector practice at a time when practice needs to be ‘held together’ as the situation for victims and survivors erodes politically.

We continued to support in an advisory capacity on the **Respond project** hosted by University College Hospital. This is an integrated model of NHS care for newly-arriving asylum seekers, delivering services either directly into initial or contingency accommodation or indirectly to primary care practices in Camden, Islington and Barnet. With our experience of integrated care for asylum seekers, the HBF clinical team has been able to provide a series of training sessions to frontline healthcare professionals. The therapy team were subsequently invited to provide psychological consultation to a series of fortnightly multi-disciplinary meetings, helping clinicians to identify appropriate services and providing suggestions about the timing, relevance, and delivery of mental health interventions. This work is ongoing. Thoughtful prioritising of interventions is frequently a focus, as is promoting choice with families: in one, case a family member was supported to advocate effectively for the right support for a child.

TRAINING

HBF provides training across three broad areas:

- Working with survivors of trafficking to provide individual support and prevent re-trafficking
- Therapeutic approaches in working with refugee and asylum-seeking populations
- The application of medico-legal evidence

Internationally, we have started piloting the provision of Narrative Exposure Training and Trauma informed Code of Conduct training for those working with survivors of trafficking. Our first training happened in Myanmar in November 2022 with 22 people supporting trafficking of survivors with therapeutic and other interventions.

Our UK-focused training programme continues to expand, partly due to the willingness post pandemic to receive and deliver online training.

In 2022, we delivered training to more than 250 individuals in statutory services and more than 400 individuals in non-statutory services.

Highlights from our training programme and outreach, which has expanded due to the willingness to receive training online, included training on:

- Medico legal reports to the Hong Kong Justice Centre
- Medical care of asylum seekers and refugees and on modern slavery and trauma-informed care to the Royal College of Emergency Medicine Annual Conference
- Medical care of asylum seekers and refugees to GP trainees from UCLH
- Launch of the new Istanbul Protocol for medico-legal report writers
- Trauma informed Code of Conduct training (see below) for a range of statutory service providers and NGOs at a multi-agency event organised by the Salvation Army in Birmingham
- Working with trauma and the provision of mental health to NGO partners
- Collaborative therapeutic working with asylum seekers and refugees for students and therapists at the University of Hull

We also provided trauma-informed, anti-trafficking training for a wide range of service providers for the UK Government Modern Slavery Victim Care Contract, utilising the Trauma informed Code of Conduct and setting out information on our Counter-Trafficking Programme, featuring our evidential documentation for decision-makers and the NRM Handbook.

[The Trauma-Informed Code of Conduct for All Professionals Working with Survivors of Trafficking and Slavery](#) (2021) (TiCC), authored by Rachel Witkin and Dr Katy Robjant was first published in 2018 and updated in 2020 to include further information on working with 'cultural mediators'. It was then re-published and re-designed to include safe and trauma-informed methods of working online.

The TiCC is a simple, accessible guide for all professionals who may find themselves working with survivors of trafficking. It has a firm basis in the combination of specialist trauma care and experiential multi-faceted and multi-disciplinary work with survivors of trafficking. TiCC is concise and easy to follow for busy people, enabling them to:

- Establish and maintain a mutual relationship of trust with survivors in any working context or environment.
- Impart a consistent sense of calm, security and safety throughout the course of their work.
- Increase the confidence of survivors and minimise the risks of causing distress and re-traumatisation.
- Remain safe and well in the course of their work, avoiding secondary traumatisation and professional 'burnout'.

This training has been seen as very helpful to many of the statutory professionals we have provided it to, as this feedback shows:

"You have taught a policeman of many years experience, new methods with the TiCC which have made a real difference to my work with victims of trafficking; even the way I accompany them to an interview room now has made a difference"

Student from the St Mary's University Skills for Care Course on Identification and support for victims of trafficking – TiCC module.

In 2023:

Over the coming year, we will increase our impact through research, training and policy, and collaborate with others to:

- Grow access to evidence based trauma-focussed treatment, both in the UK and Internationally, using our status as the UK home of Narrative Exposure Therapy to do so.
- Continue to support the evolution of the Modern Slavery Core Outcome Set Community of Practice
- Develop new research, including in the area of legal protection.
- Drive forward human rights-centred approaches to providing safety, protection and power to all survivors.
- Continue to take forward strategic legal work in order to hold the UK government accountable for unlawful policy and legislation.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Framework

Our policies relating to reserves and the need to generate an annual operating surplus provide a financial framework within which the Helen Bamber Foundation Group seeks to function.

Reserves policy

Forming part of our reserves, the unrestricted general fund is the working fund of the charity. Unlike the other funds, it is not restricted or designated for a defined purpose. The unrestricted general fund provides for activities not funded by earned income or restricted funding and for the general administration of the charity. It also provides working capital for operations and helps to provide resources to ensure that the charity is able to continue with its obligations.

Our Group policy is to maintain an unrestricted general fund of between three (£870,630) and six months (£1,741,261) of gross expenditure for the next financial year. Given the importance of being confident that the group can maintain its support to our very vulnerable clients, the trustees aim to increase the sum in the unrestricted general fund.

In December 2022, Helen Bamber Foundation Group ended the year positively with unrestricted reserves of £930,932 after allowing for designated funds (note 15a) which is equivalent to 4.4 months cover.

Summary of results

In 2022, activities resulted in a group surplus of £421,693, a fantastic result given the continued challenges in the fundraising environment, such as the cost of living crisis and the increased demand for support in the sector due to the impact of the Covid-19. The organisation continued to focus on expenditure to make sure we could adapt our services to the needs of our clients as well as make savings and efficiencies where possible.

HBFG ended 2022 in a good financial position with Total Funds available of £1,706,023 (1,284,330 in 2021) comprising of unrestricted fund of £1,513,620 (£1,189,760 in 2021), restricted funds of £192,403 (£94,570 in 2021). From unrestricted funds The Trustees have set up a New Premises Move designated fund and transferred a further £75K, in addition to the £250,000 transferred in 2021, in order to meet planned expenditure during 2023 and 2024 on securing an exciting new premises from which to increase our impact upon survivors of trafficking and torture. Additionally, a further £235,541 relating to casework in progress has also been moved to designated funds, a further £22,147 represents a designated fixed assets fund leaving unrestricted general funds of £930,932 (£705,122 in 2021). The casework in progress is an asset which we have reasonable expectation will become convertible into cash at a future date but have not included it in the free reserves due the timing uncertainty. We are pleased that in 2022 we maintained the unrestricted general fund within our target, and we will continue to work towards increasing our general fund towards the top end of the range of £1,741,261. A budget showing a small surplus has been set for 2023.

Risks

The significant risks to which the HBF group is exposed, as identified by the trustees, have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate these risks. Among the risks identified, the most significant are considered to be:

- The challenge of ensuring that funds are raised for Asylum Aid to fill the gap left by the delays in receipt of Legal Aid funding due to delays in decision making and therefore closure of cases.
- The increasingly inhumane environment facing our client group and corresponding ineffectiveness of the asylum system, and the equivalent likelihood of an increase in the number of clients with complex needs.
- The failure to secure a new building.

These risks are mitigated in part through close operational monitoring and application of the reserves policy.

Subsequent events and going concern

In the last two years the Government has introduced 2 significant legislative changes to the asylum system and a further administrative change in the Rwanda scheme. This has created increasing difficulties for the population we serve with uncertainties about how these changes will be implemented.

Therefore the trustees have put in place measures to mitigate the risks to the HBF Group from the ongoing delays in decision-making by the Home Office and by the courts, which has pushed back the closure of cases and therefore income from the Legal Aid Authority for work done. The trustees continue to focus on fundraised income during this period, and kept an eye on the rising cost of living and it's impact on remuneration, retention and recruitment. In particular the trustees have kept an eye on the fundraising undertaken to support the costs of a capital appeal and are reassured with the amount of funds secured as well as pledged, while acknowledging there is more to be done.

Having regard to these steps and the reserves held at the year-end by the Helen Bamber Foundation Group, the trustees consider it reasonable to expect that HBF has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the trustees continue to adopt the 'going concern' basis in preparing the accounts. The trustees and senior management have increased the regularity of financial forecasts in both the short and medium term. We continue to strengthen our financial processes and systems so we can monitor financial risk, and where required, take appropriate management action.

Related Parties and Relationships with other Organizations.

During the year the HBF foundation received a total of £103,883 unrestricted donations from six Trustees.

Summary Results of the subsidiary (Asylum Aid)

HBF is an independent charity. We are developing a group structure to maximise impact for survivors of trafficking and torture by aligning efforts with other charities that also provide much-needed support. Asylum Aid became the first member of our Helen Bamber Foundation Group (the Group) during the pandemic, due to its own financial difficulties. The Asylum Aid Board continues to have independent oversight, but with alignment and efficiency created through a minority of three shared board members out of a total of seven board members, joint committees and back-office support, including executive support, finance, HR, volunteer management, facilities and fundraising. In May 2022, HBF became the sole member of Asylum Aid. We also took the opportunity to update both charities' Objects in September 2022 in line with changes in Charity Law. To ensure independence, as well as greater impact for the group, HBF and Asylum Aid do not share clients. The Managing Executives' day-to-day management of the Group continued with the introduction of a Management Group made up of the Chief Executive, Executive Directors, Directors and Heads of Teams. A Finance and Fundraising Committee, bringing together trustees and management team members, meets at least quarterly to provide financial and fundraising governance and oversight of both HBF and Asylum Aid.

Asylum Aid has had another successful year in 2022, which ended in a surplus of £242,873 (£227,175) in 2021. Total Reserves as at 31st December 2022 were £537,955 (2021: £295,082) which consist of unrestricted free reserves of £229,940 (2021: £67,092), which represents three months of unrestricted expenditure, and restricted reserves of £47,474 (2021: £18,141). The casework work in progress (WIP) designated fund £235,541 (2021: £209,849) is income that is recognized in our accounts, but which is an illiquid asset that cannot be relied upon as part of our reserves policy. We also have a designated premises fund £25,000 (2021: Nil) towards planned expenditure of securing new premises in 2023-2024.

Remuneration policy

The objectives of HBF's remuneration policy are to:

- Reward staff appropriately and enable the recruitment and retention of high calibre personnel.
- Ensure the proper use of the charity's resources in accordance with its aims and within affordable limits, based on the financial circumstances of the charity.
- Be non-discriminatory, just and equitable in the evaluation of jobs and their remuneration by providing a stable framework for the remuneration of the team.
- Pay at a competitive level, taking account of external market rates — with an aim to set pay around the median level for comparable posts in the voluntary sector, subject to the charity's financial position.
- Operate within the law.

Remuneration is reviewed on an annual basis and agreed by the Board of Trustees. When setting pay levels, the charity gives consideration to external benchmark comparators, changes in the national average earnings index, affordability and other internal and external pressures, including recruitment and retention. The policy applies to all staff, including the charity's executive team. The total remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer and 4 directors, including employer's NI and employer's pension contributions, was £312,085.

Fundraising

HBF's fundraising team produces an annual Income Generation Strategy against which performance is regularly monitored by senior management and trustees. In 2022, HBF continued to adapt to the challenging fundraising environment due to the pandemic, and successfully raised £2,697,311 thanks to the generosity of our supporters.

HBF's fundraising approach reflects the principles published on the HBF's website www.helenbamber.org. The charity's fundraising programme is delivered using internal resources and in 2022 did not involve external professional fundraisers or commercial participators. HBF does not generate merchandise for fundraising purposes.

HBF is registered with the Fundraising Regulator. Registration represents a commitment to the highest standards of practice and ensures that all fundraising activity is open, legal and fair. As a registered participant, HBF commits to the Board's Codes of Fundraising Practice, which is the standard set for fundraisers in the UK. Registered participants also commit to abide by its Fundraising Promise, which is based on six key pledges that reflect the core values of respect, honesty, accountability and transparency. HBF is strongly committed to recognised sector standards and is actively working to protect vulnerable people and other members of the public from behaviour which:

- Is an unreasonable intrusion on a person's privacy.
- Is unreasonably persistent.
- Places undue pressure on a person to give money or other property.

HBF has received no complaints in regard to its fundraising activities in 2022.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

In setting HBF's objectives and planning its activities, the Board of Trustees has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. In particular, the Board of Trustees considers how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set. The benefits that HBF brings to the public are:

- Relieving and assisting people, and protecting the health of people who are at risk by reason of their experience of torture, hostilities, genocides or other atrocities.
- Preventing sickness and protecting the health of people who are at risk from such experiences.
- Relieving poverty among those people.
- Educating people on all issues concerning gross violation of human rights, torture and atrocities and the effect on people who experience such suffering.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees of the Helen Bamber Foundation (who are also directors of the HBF for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). This report includes information contained in Asylum Aid's annual report, it is the trustees of Asylum Aid who are responsible for preparing their annual report and the financial statements contained therein.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware.
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The trustees of the Helen Bamber Foundation are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the Helen Bamber Foundation in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 December 2022 was ten (2021: seven). The trustees are members of the Helen Bamber Foundation but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the charitable company's auditor during the year and has expressed its

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Adam Epstein

Adam Epstein, Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Helen Bamber Foundation (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, the group and parent charitable company balance sheets, the consolidated statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the group financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on Helen Bamber Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the group financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the group financial statements does not cover the other information, and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the group financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the group financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- The information given in the trustees' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements
- The trustees' annual report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees (who are also the directors of the parent charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and the parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or the parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with those Acts.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are set out below.

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's and group's policies and procedures relating to:
- Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
- Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
- The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the group operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the group from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.

- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Joanna Pittman (Senior statutory auditor)

Date: 6 September 2023

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor
Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL

Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Consolidated statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account) for the Helen Bamber Foundation Group (comprising the Helen Bamber Foundation and Asylum Aid)

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
Income from:							
Donations - legal protection	2	-	292,598	292,598	-	147,080	147,080
Donations - therapy and casework	2	-	179,233	179,233	-	142,113	142,113
Donations - community integration	2	-	87,969	87,969	-	94,912	94,912
Donations - counter trafficking	2	-	147,929	147,929	-	19,653	19,653
Donations - research, policy, dissemination	2	-	40,198	40,198	-	55,961	55,961
Donations - general	2	1,894,415	54,969	1,949,384	1,230,973	15,701	1,246,674
Charitable activities							
Fees from medical legal reports - Legal protection		106,895	-	106,895	85,190	-	85,190
Other legal services		154,848	-	154,848	255,799	-	255,799
Westminster ASP		-	61,306	61,306	-	61,306	61,306
Other income		22,656	-	22,656	61,307	-	61,307
Bank interest		2,223	-	2,223	81	-	81
Total income		2,181,037	864,202	3,045,239	1,633,350	536,726	2,170,076
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	3	270,930	-	270,930	175,678	-	175,678
Charitable activities							
Legal protection	3	613,844	350,059	963,903	659,069	201,746	860,815
Therapy and casework	3	391,659	195,332	586,990	436,712	102,984	539,696
Community integration	3	34,470	78,493	112,963	35,091	82,224	117,315
Counter trafficking	3	359,232	114,691	473,922	127,305	17,479	144,784
Research, policy and dissemination	3	187,042	27,794	214,836	183,388	55,453	238,841
Total expenditure		1,857,178	766,368	2,623,546	1,617,244	459,886	2,077,130
Net income for the year	4	323,860	97,833	421,693	16,106	76,840	92,946
Net income and movement in funds		323,860	97,833	421,693	16,106	76,840	92,946
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		1,189,760	94,570	1,284,330	1,173,654	17,730	1,191,384
Total funds carried forward		1,513,620	192,403	1,706,023	1,189,760	94,570	1,284,330

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 15a to the financial statements.

Balance sheets

Company No. 08186281

As at 31 December 2022

		The group		The charity Helen Bamber Foundation	
	Note	2022 £	2021 £	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	8	22,147	24,789	19,531	23,856
		22,147	24,789	19,531	23,856
Current assets:					
Debtors	11	439,101	247,557	471,689	336,067
Casework-in-progress		235,541	209,849	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		1,384,326	1,028,766	817,242	772,269
		2,058,968	1,486,172	1,288,931	1,108,336
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(375,093)	(226,631)	(140,394)	(142,949)
Net current assets		1,683,876	1,259,541	1,148,537	965,387
Total Net Assets		1,706,023	1,284,330	1,168,067	989,243
Funds:	15a				
Restricted income funds		192,403	94,570	68,501	76,429
Unrestricted income funds:					
Designated fixed asset fund		22,147	24,789	19,531	23,856
Designated Casework-in-Progress		235,541	209,849	-	-
Designated- New Premise Fund		325,000	250,000	300,000	250,000
General funds		930,932	705,122	780,035	638,958
Total unrestricted funds		1,513,620	1,189,760	1,099,566	912,814
Total funds		1,706,023	1,284,330	1,168,067	989,243

Approved by the trustees on 13 July 2023 and signed on their behalf by

John Scampion
Treasurer

Consolidated statement of cash flows for the Helen Bamber Foundation Group (comprising the Helen Bamber Foundation and Asylum Aid)

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		421,693		92,946	
Depreciation charges		16,917		18,309	
(Increase) / decrease in debtors		18,305		(137,291)	
Increase in casework-in-progress		(235,541)		(209,849)	
(Decrease) / increase in creditors		148,462		(99,006)	
Net cash provided by operating activities			369,835		(334,891)
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Purchase of fixed assets		(14,275)		(9,823)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(14,275)		(9,823)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year			355,560		(344,714)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			1,028,766		1,373,480
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	a		1,384,326		1,028,766
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents and of net debt					
		At 1 January 2022 £	Cash flows £	Other non-cash changes £	At 31 December 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand		1,028,766	355,560	-	1,384,326
a Total cash and cash equivalents		1,028,766	355,560	-	1,384,326

Notes to the financial statements for the Helen Bamber Foundation Group (comprising the Helen Bamber Foundation and Asylum Aid)

For the year ended 31 December 2022

1 Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

Helen Bamber Foundation is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom.

The registered office address is Bruges Place, 15-20 Baynes Street London NW1 0TF.

b) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) - (Charities SORP FRS 102), The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charity and its subsidiary Asylum Aid on a line by line basis. Transactions and balances between the charity and its subsidiary have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements. Balances between the two entities are disclosed in the notes of the charity's balance sheet. A separate statement of financial activities, or income and expenditure account, for the charity itself is not presented because the charity has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

In applying the financial reporting framework, the trustees have made a number of subjective judgements, for example in respect of significant accounting estimates. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The nature of the estimation means the actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. Any significant estimates and judgements affecting these financial statements are detailed within the relevant accounting policy below.

c) Reporting period

The financial statements cover the year to 31 December 2022.

d) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

e) Going concern

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

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

f) Recognition of income

Recognition of income takes place in accordance with applicable accounting policies and results are presented in accordance with the SORP. All incoming resources are included in the Statement of financial activities when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably. Grants and donations are recorded in the period in which they are received or the charity is entitled to the income.

Donations receivable for the general purposes of the charity are credited to Unrestricted funds and donations tied to a particular purpose are credited to Restricted funds.

Revenue grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable, whichever is earlier. Where unconditional entitlement to grants receivable is dependent on fulfilment of conditions within the charity's control, the incoming resources are recognised when there is sufficient evidence that conditions will be met. Where there is uncertainty as to whether the charity can meet such conditions, the incoming resource is deferred. When funding received is designated by the donor to be used in a specific future period, income is deferred.

Income from medico legal reports is recognised when the report has been completed and submitted to the customer and an invoice has been raised.

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

Work in Progress is valued at the average hourly rate paid by the Legal Aid Agency. Provision is made where necessary for irrecoverable amount of work in progress.

All other income, such as training fees, is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable probability. Legacies are included when there is reasonable probability of receipt, amount and timing.

Where income is received in advance of its recognition, it is deferred and included in creditors. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued and included in debtors.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

g) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

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

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

h) Recognition of expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis in the period to which the cost relates and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered. Where costs cannot be directly attributable to particular activities, they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources. Overheads, salaries and governance costs are allocated between the activity headings on the basis of attributable employment cost, and an element of judgement is involved. Costs of raising funds are those costs, including fundraising expenditures, incurred by the charity to obtain funds. Support costs are those costs incurred which are not directly an output of the charitable activity. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with enabling the charity to comply with external regulation, constitutional and statutory requirements and in providing support to the Trustees in the discharge of their statutory duties.

i) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £250. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use. Major components are treated as a separate asset where they have significantly different patterns of consumption of economic benefits and are depreciated separately over its useful life.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Only individual assets costing £250 or more and not forming part of a larger project are capitalised. This level is periodically reviewed, along with the need for a formal impairment review.

Provision is made for depreciation of fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less the estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over 3 years and other fixed assets over 4 years.

j) Cash at bank and in hand

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

1 Accounting policies (continued)

k) Recognition of liabilities and constructive liabilities

Liabilities, including constructive obligations, are recognised at the point at which the charity is deemed to have entered into a binding commitment. Provisions are recognised when there is a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the obligation.

l) Leases

Rental costs under operating leases are charged to expenditure as incurred. Lease incentives received by the charity are released on a straight line basis to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period until the first break clause or, in the case of leases already existing, until the rent review.

m) Pensions

The charity contributes to a stakeholder pension scheme on behalf of its staff, and the cost is recognised as incurred.

n) Taxation status

As a charity, Helen Bamber Foundation is exempt from taxation of income and gains falling within Section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent these are applied charitably. No tax charge has arisen in the year.

o) Funds

The charity's financial statements are a consolidation of individual funds. These divide into two distinct categories: unrestricted and restricted.

Unrestricted funds

The use of these funds has not been restricted to a particular purpose by the donor. The unrestricted funds comprise the General fund and Designated funds.

General fund

The General fund is the working fund of the charity. It is not tied or designated as are the other funds for use for a particular or defined purpose. The General fund has to provide for the net deficit of any activities that have inadequate income of their own and for the general administration of the charity. It also provides working capital for operations and helps to provide resources to ensure that the charity is able to continue with its obligations in the event of a shortfall in income or unexpected upturn in expenditure. The current target level for the unrestricted general fund is between three and six months of the higher of projected gross income or gross expenditure for the next financial year.

Designated funds

Designated funds are those which have been allocated by the charity for particular purposes. The Fixed Asset reserve represents the net book value of the investment by the General fund in fixed assets.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Restricted funds

These are income funds tied to particular purposes. They include gifts made to the charity to be used in accordance with the wishes of the donors. Until funds are expended, they are placed on deposit or held in cash.

p) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due, after provision for doubtful debts.

2 Income from donations

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
Donations - trusts and foundations	1,254,127	646,394	1,900,521	855,576	403,420	1,258,996
Donations - individuals	222,814	-	222,814	221,106	-	221,106
Donations - corporate	174,607	114,000	288,607	116,733	72,000	188,733
Other	242,867	42,502	285,369	37,557	-	37,557
	<u>1,894,415</u>	<u>802,896</u>	<u>2,697,311</u>	<u>1,230,973</u>	<u>475,420</u>	<u>1,706,393</u>

The "other" donations comprise income from community fundraising and a fundraising campaign comprising one main event in 2022.

Restricted and unrestricted donations from trusts and foundations of £2,000 or greater in 2022 were as follows:-

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
The A. B. Charitable Trust	50,000	-	50,000	50,000	-	50,000
Access for Justice Foundation	12,196	-	12,196	-	31,000	31,000
Anti-Slavery International	-	-	-	-	2,026	2,026
Roddick Foundation	-	30,000	30,000	-	-	-
The Bryan Guinness Charitable Trust	3,000	-	3,000	-	-	-
Two Magpies Fund	-	15,000	15,000	-	-	-
Comic Relief	-	63,759	63,759	-	123,601	123,601
Eva Reckitt Trust Fund	-	2,500	2,500	-	2,500	2,500
The Evan Cornish Foundation	-	12,000	12,000	-	12,000	12,000
ORR Mackintosh Foundation	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	25,000	-	25,000	25,000	-	25,000
Robert Luff Foundation	10,000	-	10,000	10,000	-	10,000
Susan Gibson	-	-	-	2,000	-	2,000
John Coates	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-
Survivors of Torture Foundation	-	6,000	6,000	-	-	-
The Henry Smith Charity	-	30,000	30,000	-	12,500	12,500
ILPA	-	19,005	19,005	-	-	-
The Leigh Trust	-	4,000	4,000	-	4,000	4,000
The Marwyn Trust	-	159,278	159,278	16,728	-	16,728

2 Income from donations (continued)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
The McCartney Foundation	75,000	-	75,000	50,000	-	50,000
Moynitrust	3,000	-	3,000	5,000	-	5,000
The National Lottery Community Fund	133,334	-	133,334	91,667	-	91,667
Oak Foundation	70,000	-	70,000	120,000	-	120,000
McPhail Trust	-	40,000	40,000	-	40,000	40,000
Samworth Foundation	100,000	100,000	200,000	80,000	83,759	163,759
Pilkington Charities Fund	-	-	-	3,000	-	3,000
Postcode Equality Trust	500,000	-	500,000	125,000	-	125,000
The Souter Charitable Trust	-	-	-	10,000	-	10,000
British Humane Association	-	-	-	4,000	-	4,000
Trust for London	-	37,230	37,230	50,000	20,000	70,000
Transport for London	-	-	-	-	30,000	30,000
The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	-	-	-	-	10,590	10,590
Wellcome Community Support Fund	-	10,000	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
William Brake Charitable Trust	-	4,000	4,000	-	2,000	2,000
The Wright Family Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-
29th May 1961 Charitable Trust	-	3,000	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
Britford Bridge	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Bloomberg	110,000	-	110,000	110,000	-	110,000
Adfal Trust Culver House Farm	3,000	-	3,000	4,000	-	4,000
Harkness Family	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
Volant Charitable Trust	-	-	-	50,000	-	50,000
London Legal Support	-	-	-	20,000	-	20,000
Disrupt Foundation	50,000	-	50,000	-	-	-
Unbound Philanthropy	30,000	-	30,000	-	-	-
Justice Platform Crowdfunder	-	20,454	20,454	-	-	-
Open Society Foundation	-	36,154	36,154	-	-	-
Goodlaw Ltd	-	17,649	17,649	-	-	-
Choose Love	6,650	1,350	8,000	-	-	-
Ramfel	26,627	-	26,627	-	-	-
Kings College	-	7,999	7,999	-	-	-
Other trusts - Trusts under £2,000	11,321	7,515	18,836	19,181	6,444	25,625
Anonymous	35,000	14,500	49,500	-	-	-
Total	<u>1,254,127</u>	<u>646,394</u>	<u>1,900,521</u>	<u>855,576</u>	<u>403,420</u>	<u>1,258,996</u>

3a Analysis of expenditure (current year)

	Charitable activities						Support and Governance costs £	Support costs £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
	Cost of raising funds £	Legal protection £	Therapy and casework £	Community Integration £	Counter Trafficking £	Research, policy and dissemination £				
Staff costs (Note 5)	138,722	608,658	374,624	64,537	345,348	138,055	129,569	-	1,799,512	1,523,445
Legal protection	-	147,042	-	-	-	-	-	-	147,042	42,755
Therapy and casework	-	-	84,219	-	-	-	-	-	84,219	88,547
Community Integration and creative arts programme	-	-	-	26,350	-	-	-	-	26,350	10,491
Counter Trafficking	-	-	-	-	10,441	-	-	-	10,441	4,046
Education, policy and research	-	-	-	-	-	29,557	-	-	29,557	30,054
Fundraising costs	84,756	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	84,756	10,445
Premises costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	209,318	-	209,318	190,007
Audit	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,680	-	16,680	15,265
Trustee expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	201	-	201	253
Office and supplies costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	131,441	-	131,441	103,244
Irrecoverable VAT	-	-	-	-	-	-	63,867	-	63,867	49,198
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,917	-	16,917	17,970
Movement on doubtful debt provision	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,244	-	3,244	(8,591)
	223,478	755,700	458,843	90,887	355,789	167,612	571,237	-	2,623,546	2,077,130
Support and Governance costs allocation	47,453	208,204	128,147	22,076	118,133	47,224	(571,237)	-	-	-
Total expenditure 2022	270,930	963,903	586,990	112,963	473,922	214,836	-	-	2,623,546	
Total expenditure 2021	175,678	860,815	539,696	117,315	144,784	238,841	-	-		2,077,130

Governance costs are included above under audit fees and trustees' expenses.

3b Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Charitable activities							2021 Total £	2020 Total £
	Cost of raising funds £	Legal protection £	Therapy and casework £	Community Integration £	Counter Trafficking £	Research, policy and dissemination £	Support and Governance costs £		
Staff costs (Note 5)	125,614	621,908	342,974	81,210	106,992	158,725	86,022	1,523,445	1,195,997
Legal protection	-	42,755	-	-	-	-	-	42,755	75,150
Therapy and casework	-	-	88,547	-	-	-	-	88,547	116,661
Community Integration and creative arts programme	-	-	-	10,491	-	-	-	10,491	19,186
Counter Trafficking	-	-	-	-	4,046	-	-	4,046	7,087
Education, policy and research	-	-	-	-	-	30,054	-	30,054	27,559
Fundraising costs	10,445	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,445	32,246
Premises costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	190,007	190,007	187,174
Audit	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,265	15,265	12,100
Trustee expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	253	253	-
Office and supplies costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	103,244	103,244	83,491
Irrecoverable VAT	-	-	-	-	-	-	49,198	49,198	63,864
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,970	17,970	16,547
Movement on doubtful debt provision	-	-	-	-	-	-	(8,591)	(8,591)	(15,942)
	136,059	664,663	431,521	91,701	111,038	188,779	453,369	2,077,130	1,821,120
Support and Governance costs allocation	39,619	196,152	108,175	25,614	33,746	50,062	(453,369)	-	-
Total expenditure 2021	175,678	860,815	539,696	117,315	144,784	238,841	-	2,077,130	
Total expenditure 2020	254,273	461,574	570,156	133,083	153,211	248,822	-		1,821,120

Governance costs are included above under audit fees and trustees' expenses.

4 Net income for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2022 £	2021 £
Depreciation	16,917	18,309
Operating lease rentals:		
Property	142,321	141,919
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Current year audit	10,900	9,975
Independent examination of Asylum Aid	3,000	2,725

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

Staff costs were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Salaries and wages	1,523,496	1,327,067
Social security costs	152,607	119,924
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	103,255	49,130
Recruitment costs	11,184	9,918
Interim staffing costs	5,655	10,062
Redundancy costs (paid as at 31.12.22)	3,314	7,344
	1,799,511	1,523,445

Three employee earned between £60,000 and £70,000 during the year (2021: one). One employee earned between £80,000 and £90,000 (2021: none)

The total employee benefits, (including pension contributions and employer's national insurance) of the senior management executive were £312,085 (2021: £278,455).

The Trustees were not paid or in receipt of any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2021: £nil). No Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2021: £nil).

The Trustees were not paid or in receipt of any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2021: £nil). No Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2021: £nil).

£201 Trustee expenses were incurred by the charity in the year and relate to online training for one new Trustee (2021: £218).

6 Staff numbers

The average number of employees based on the average headcount employed during the year was as follows:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Fundraising	4.0	4.0
Charitable activity	42.0	32.0
Support	7.0	5.0
Governance	2.0	2.0
	55.0	43.0

7 Related party transactions

There were management charges of £74,000 relating to HBF staff costs recharged to AA in 2022 (2021: £77,451).

There were no donations from related parties which were outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties. The total amount of donations received in 2022 from Trustees or parties related to them was £103,883 (2021: £55,000).

8 Tangible fixed assets

The group

Cost	Leasehold Improvement £	Fixtures and fittings £	ICT and medical equipment £	Total £
At the start of the year	113,376	34,163	66,792	214,331
Additions in year	-	-	14,275	14,275
Disposals in year	-	-	-	-
At the end of the year	113,376	34,163	81,067	228,606
Depreciation				
At the start of the year	111,826	30,198	47,519	189,542
Charge for the year	1,550	3,470	11,898	16,917
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-
At the end of the year	113,376	33,667	59,416	206,459
Net book value				
At the end of the year		496	21,651	22,147
At the start of the year	1,550	3,965	19,274	24,789

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

The charity Helen Bamber Foundation

Cost	Leasehold Improvement £	Fixtures and fittings £	ICT and medical equipment £	Total £
At the start of the year	113,376	34,163	65,435	212,974
Additions in year	-	-	11,963	11,963
Disposals in year	-	-	-	-
At the end of the year	113,376	34,163	77,398	224,937
Depreciation				
At the start of the year	111,826	30,198	47,094	189,118
Charge for the year	1,550	3,470	11,269	16,289
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-
At the end of the year	113,376	33,667	58,364	205,407
Net book value				
At the end of the year		496	19,035	19,531
At the start of the year	1,550	3,965	18,341	23,856

9 Subsidiary undertaking - Asylum Aid

The charity controls the subsidiary, Asylum Aid, a company registered in England. The company number is 2513874 and charity number is 328729. The registered office address is that of the parent company. It is a subsidiary of the Helen Bamber Foundation (parent company) as the parent company board have majority control of Asylum Aid.

The subsidiary is used for the primary purpose of providing legal representation and access to justice for refugees and those seeking asylum. All activities have been consolidated on a line by line basis in the statement of financial activities.

A summary of the results of the subsidiary is shown below:

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2022 £	2021 £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	277,343	363,247	640,590	390,401
Charitable Activities	-	129,157	129,157	45,950
Other trading activities	-	61,306	61,306	61,306
Ramfel		26,627	26,627	
Legal income	-	25,692	25,692	209,849
Total Income	277,343	606,029	883,372	707,506
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	-	25,856	25,856	21,859
Charitable Activities	248,010	366,633	614,643	458,472
Total Expenditure	248,010	392,489	640,499	480,331
Net income for the year	29,333	213,540	242,873	227,175
Total funds brought forward	18,141	276,941	295,082	67,907
Total Funds carried forward	47,474	490,481	537,955	295,082

Subsidiary Analysis of net assets between funds (current year)

	General unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	2,616	-	-	2,616
Net current assets	227,324	260,541	47,474	535,339
Net assets at 31 December 2022	229,940	260,541	47,474	537,955

Subsidiary Analysis of net assets between funds (prior year)

	General unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	933	-	-	933
Net current assets	66,159	209,849	18,141	294,149
Net assets at 31 December 2021	67,092	209,849	18,141	295,082

10 Parent charity - Helen Bamber Foundation

The parent charity's gross income and the results for the year are disclosed as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Gross income	2,161,868	1,462,570
Result for the year	178,824	(134,229)

11 Debtors

	The group		The charity Helen Bamber Foundation	
	2022 £	2021 £	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	105,610	47,861	74,957	47,816
Amounts due from group undertakings	-	-	72,416	116,321
Prepayments & other debtors	32,165	13,798	22,989	11,359
Accrued income	301,326	185,898	301,326	160,571
	439,101	247,557	471,689	336,067

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	The group		The charity Helen Bamber Foundation	
	2022 £	2021 £	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	60,012	80,184	37,106	70,574
Taxation and social security	41,942	34,339	31,652	26,025
Accruals	100,254	48,146	35,176	37,916
Deferred income (note 13)	101,228	-	32,167	-
Other creditors	71,657	63,962	4,293	8,435
	375,093	226,631	140,394	142,949

13 Deferred income

Deferred income relates to three restricted donations. Income is deferred as it relates to future periods

	The group		The charity Helen Bamber Foundation	
	2022 £	2021 £	2022 £	2021 £
Balance at the beginning of the year	-	138,139	-	107,139
Amount released to income in the year	-	(138,139)	-	(107,139)
Amount deferred in the year	101,228	-	32,167	-
Balance at the end of the year	101,228	-	32,167	-

14a Analysis of group net assets between funds (current year)

	General unrestricted £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	22,147	-	22,147
Net current assets	930,932	560,541	192,403	1,683,876
Net assets at the end of the year	930,932	582,688	192,403	1,706,023

14b Analysis of group net assets between funds (prior year)

	General unrestricted £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	24,789	-	24,789
Net current assets	705,122	459,849	94,570	1,259,541
Net assets at the end of the year	705,122	484,638	94,570	1,284,330

15a Movements in group funds (current year)

	At 1 January 2022 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	Total funds £
Restricted funds:					
Legal protection	21,520	353,904	(324,950)	-	50,474
Therapy and casework	47,384	179,233	(181,321)	-	45,295
Community integration	15,495	87,969	(72,863)	-	30,601
Research, policy and dissemination	7,400	40,198	(25,800)	-	21,798
Counter Trafficking	2,771	147,929	(106,464)	-	44,236
Westminster ASP	-	-	-	-	-
General	-	54,969	(54,969)	-	-
Total restricted funds	94,570	864,202	(766,368)	-	192,403
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated fixed asset fund	24,789	-	(14,739)	12,097	22,147
Designated Casework-in-Progress	209,849	-	-	25,692	235,541
Designated- New Premise Fund	250,000	-	-	75,000	325,000
Total designated funds	484,638	-	(14,739)	112,789	582,688
General funds	705,122	2,181,037	(1,842,439)	(112,789)	930,932
Total unrestricted funds	1,189,760	2,181,037	(1,857,178)	-	1,513,620
Total funds	1,284,330	3,045,239	(2,623,546)	-	1,706,023

The narrative to explain the purpose of each fund is given at the foot of the note below.

15b Movements in group funds (prior year)

	At 1 January 2021 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	Total funds £
Restricted funds:					
Legal protection	7,992	147,080	(133,552)	-	21,520
Therapy and casework	4,738	142,113	(99,467)	-	47,384
Community integration	-	94,912	(79,417)	-	15,495
Research, policy and dissemination	5,000	55,961	(53,561)	-	7,400
Counter Trafficking	-	19,653	(16,882)	-	2,771
Westminster ASP	-	61,306	(61,306)	-	-
General	-	15,701	(15,701)	-	-
Total restricted funds	17,730	536,726	(459,886)	-	94,570
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated fixed asset fund	33,275	-	(17,970)	9,484	24,789
Designated Casework-in-Progress	-	209,849	-	-	209,849
Designated- New Premise Fund	-	-	-	250,000	250,000
Total designated funds	33,275	209,849	(17,970)	259,484	484,638
General funds	1,140,379	1,423,501	(1,599,274)	(259,484)	705,122
Total unrestricted funds	1,173,654	1,633,350	(1,617,244)	-	1,189,760
Total funds	1,191,384	2,170,076	(2,077,130)	-	1,284,330

Purposes of restricted funds

Legal protection

The restricted funds for protection work are to fund legal protection and advocacy support work; providing refugee and asylum seeking clients with a fair chance at seeking justice against the perpetrators of the interpersonal violence they experienced, international protection from the government and appropriate welfare support and housing provision. This includes legal staff salaries, client travel and interpreter costs and any other associated costs of administrating and providing legal protection and advocacy support to clients.

Therapy and casework

The restricted funds for therapy and casework are to fund our therapeutic care for survivors of gross human rights violations, helping individuals and families to overcome the psychological impact of interpersonal violence and achieve sustained recovery from acute trauma symptoms, Complex Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and other resultant mental health issues. This includes clinical staff salaries, client travel and interpreter costs and associated costs of administrating referrals for our services and providing tailored support and counselling for clients.

Purposes of restricted funds (continued)

Community integration

The restricted funds for community integration are to assist clients to become valued members of society and combine work from different areas. Mind and body work are to fund therapies which use the mutual influence of body on mind, and mind on body to facilitate healing and recovery from trauma. The programme includes acupuncture, cranio-sacral therapy, hakomi and internal family systems, movement, pilates, yoga (including pre- and post-natal), massage, breathing training and osteopathy. The restricted funds are for clinical staff salaries, equipment, volunteer costs and client travel.

The restricted funds for social wellbeing work are to fund the Creative arts programme, which includes language and skills classes and artistic and social groups for clients of the Foundation, to break isolation and aid recovery. This includes the costs of materials, client travel, volunteer expenses and the salary of the coordinating staff member.

Research, policy and dissemination

These restricted funds are to fund work on research, policy and dissemination.

Counter Trafficking

The restricted funds for counter trafficking are to enable the foundation to fund a model of integrated care for victims of human trafficking. This includes clinical staff salaries, client travel and interpreter costs and associated costs of administering referrals for our services and providing tailored support and counselling for clients.

Westminster ASP

Westminster Advice Services Project (WASP) is a consortium led by Westminster Citizens Advice, which Asylum Aid has been a member of since 2016. It is a consortium put together by NGOs based in Westminster and funded by Westminster council on a 3-5 year rolling contract, to provide advice and support services on welfare legal matters. Asylum Aid's USP input to this project is a multi-language volunteer advisor system, in which we train and supervise local people to interpret for us when providing advice to Westminster residence for whom English is a second language. The yearly funding covers the cost of two specialist advisors (part time), and rental costs for Derry House from where we provide outreach and drop in advice services as well as associated costs of administering our services.

Other income

We continued our partnership with Young Roots , an organisation that supports hard to reach separated asylum seeking children and young people, who often face greater barriers in accessing mental health and other support. The funds (£12,170.50,) were for clinical staff time who provided assessments, stabilisation interventions and also treatment.

We formed a new partnership with Women for Refugee Women to offer clinical support to the women in their network. The funds (£4,083.95) were for clinical staff time who provided clinical assessments that facilitated access to mental health services, as well as delivering therapeutic interventions designed to help women to stabilise and manage their mental health.

Purposes of designated funds

Fixed assets fund

A designated fund has been established to represent the net book value of the charity's fixed assets.

Casework in progress fund

Value of work in progress relating to legal cases as of year-end as this is a relatively illiquid asset.

New Premise fund

A designated fund to meet planned expenditure on securing new premises over 2023 and 2024.

16 Operating lease commitments payable as a lessee

The group's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods:

	Property	
	2022 £	2021 £
Less than one year	201,227	185,716
Two to five years	3,397	270,183
	204,624	455,899

17 Post Balance Sheet Event

In March 2023 Asylum Aid began negotiations with the Islington Law Centre (ILC), to transfer the Migrants' Law Project (MLP), to Asylum Aid. The Board of Trustees of both organisations signed an agreement on 16 June 2023 which provides for the transfer to take place in July 2023, subject to the satisfaction of certain preconditions relating to client, staff and funder consent. Under this agreement Asylum Aid will work with the MLP team to maximise the benefits from our joint work to further the protection and access to justice of people seeking asylum, refugees and others with insecure immigration status in the UK, and their family members or other dependents (whether in the UK or abroad), as well as their fair and dignified treatment. Three solicitors employed to work on the MLP will transfer to Asylum Aid in July 2023. The agreement includes a financial settlement comprising £200,000 cash, the value of restricted grants paid and not spent, and legal aid income on MLP matters received by ILC after 1 May 2023. The total value of the financial grant, which will be restricted to the MLP's work, is not yet known but is estimated to be sufficient to meet the staff and other running costs of MLP (including a contribution to Asylum Aid's overheads) for at least 18-24 months



Accounts

HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

FOUNDER

Helen Bamber OBE (1925 — 2014)

CHARITY NUMBER 1149652

COMPANY NUMBER 08186281

PRESIDENT

Emma Thompson DBE

REGISTERED OFFICE AND OPERATIONAL ADDRESS

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Sir Nicolas Bratza

Rebecca Hirst (resigned)

Nina Kowalska

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Samantha Peter

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HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY GROUP

Sir Nicolas Bratza

Shu Shin Luh

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MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVES

Gareth Holmes — Fundraising and Communications Director

Professor Cornelius Katona — Medical & Research Director

Anne Muthee — Finance and Operations Director

Kerry Smith — Chief Executive Officer

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021



INTRODUCTION TO THE HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION GROUP

Who we are

The Helen Bamber Foundation (HBF) is a pioneering human rights charity supporting refugees and asylum seekers who are the survivors of extreme human cruelty. The people we work with have been subjected to many atrocities, including state-sponsored torture, human trafficking, religious and political persecution, forced labour, sexual exploitation, and gender-based and 'honour-based' violence.

The bravery and resilience of our clients is an inspiration to all the team at HBF. In the words of our founder:

We find our reward in the eyes of those to whom we owe nothing.

Helen Bamber, OBE (1925-2014)

The Helen Bamber Foundation provides expert support for survivors of torture and trafficking. Whatever is needed — be it therapy or education; legal or medical advice; housing or employment — our services enable survivors to thrive independently. However, our work does not stop there. We direct our influence to improve global best practice so that all survivors may lead better lives with confidence and in safety.

In 2020, HBF formed the Helen Bamber Foundation Group (the Group), welcoming Asylum Aid, another human rights charity focused on survivors, which was in danger of not being able to continue its work of providing legal advice and representation. In an environment where finding any legal help, let alone expert legal help, is increasingly difficult, the expanded group offers more survivors support that protects them from persecution. *Asylum Aid works with separate individuals to those supported by the Helen Bamber Foundation, ensuring that as a Group we help more people.*

Asylum Aid is a committed, professional and collaborative charity dedicated to protecting people from persecution by providing legal representation and access to justice for refugees and those seeking asylum. Asylum Aid concentrates on complex cases of people who would struggle to get appropriate legal representation elsewhere: survivors of trafficking and torture, stateless persons and separated children. It is a key change-maker, whose loss would have been keenly felt across the sector. The team also provides welfare advice to migrants and other vulnerable members of the community in Westminster, London.

Together we are innovative, ambitious and compassionate.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It has been my privilege to have been involved with the Helen Bamber Foundation since it was founded by Helen in 2005, as a trustee and now as President. I am immensely proud of all that has been achieved in the mission to support survivors of human cruelty and in particular the many refugees and people seeking asylum who have been brutalised, tortured and trafficked in the most despicable way. But we still have so much more to do. As global violence escalates, the compassion our clients receive often lessens. Which is why, as well as offering vital direct support, we are determined to challenge the systems and practices that continue to leave survivors of torture and trafficking vulnerable to further abuse, unable to live and thrive as they deserve. The years ahead will be critical and I will be continuing to help in every way I can and welcome all others who join us in our mission.



Emma Thompson, President Helen Bamber Foundation Group

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

HBF's staff & volunteers: a community effort

We can only provide the level of services required by our clients thanks to the dedication, professionalism and vision of our staff and volunteers. During 2021, on an average head count basis, 43 members of the Helen Bamber Foundation Group team handled the daily business of the charity, providing services directly to — and on behalf of — our clients. By the end of December 2021, the Asylum Aid team had 11 members. Our office remained open throughout 2021, except for a seven week period in February and March 2021 where we closed due to the stay-at-home advice of the Government. We did not stop any of our services during 2021 but delivered them in a hybrid of face-to-face and online sessions and appointments. The staff were supported by 81 volunteers, among them doctors, therapists, barristers, solicitors, administrators, artists, musicians and other specialists. We offer our heartfelt thanks to all our volunteers, without whom we would not be able to give the same breadth and depth of support to our clients.

Management and governance

HBF is an independent charity. We are developing a group structure to maximise impact for survivors of trafficking and torture by aligning efforts with other charities that also provide much-needed support. Asylum Aid became the first member of our Helen Bamber Foundation Group (the Group) during the pandemic, due to its own financial difficulties. We will be supporting Asylum Aid as a charity to sustainably grow its impact and increase its reach. The Asylum Aid Board continues to have oversight, but with alignment and efficiency created through a minority of shared board members, joint committees and back-office support, including finance, HR, volunteer management, facilities and fundraising. The intention is to continue this incubation over the next strategy period and therefore in May 2022, HBF became the sole member of Asylum Aid. HBF and Asylum Aid do not share clients to ensure independence as well as greater impact for the group. The Managing Executives' day-to-day management of the Group continued with the introduction of a Management Group made up of the Chief Executive, Executive Directors, Directors and Heads of Teams. A Finance and Fundraising Committee, bringing together trustees and management team members, meets at least quarterly to provide financial and fundraising governance and oversight of both the HBF and Asylum Aid.

The HBF board of trustees, under the Chair, Charlotte Seymour-Smith, and supported by the Asylum Aid trustees, provided strong strategic oversight and governance of the Group throughout 2021. John Scampion is the Treasurer of both HBF and Asylum Aid. New trustees to both organisations are recruited externally, with their appointment approved by the Board of Trustees. A tailored induction follows, ensuring that each new trustee is briefed as required on the Group's governance structure and decision-making processes, its obligations under charity law, the activities of HBF and Asylum Aid, and the Group's financial performance. Trustee meetings are held every quarter and sequentially. In 2021 we recruited two Board Observers with Lived Experience, who started in their posts on 1st January 2022.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER & CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Starting 2021 with a lockdown made it abundantly clear that the Covid-19 pandemic would continue to disrupt our clients' lives and recovery throughout the year. As a result survivors of trafficking and torture continued to suffer significant deteriorations in their mental and physical health. The risk of exploitation, abuse and re-trafficking also continued to mount as ongoing isolation compounded our clients' vulnerability.

It is with great pride therefore that apart from seven weeks during the second lockdown, the Helen Bamber Foundation Group's doors remained open, providing a much needed permanent place of support for our clients. To name just one crucial difference this made, 41% of the therapy appointments we offered were trauma-focused therapy interventions, compared to 18% in 2020. We also grew our support of the wider sector by building partnerships and providing training to other organisations and statutory services, enabling them to deliver the trauma-focused care that survivors need. Our strategic commitment to improving the environment for survivors beyond those we support directly has only become more important as a result of the Afghan and Ukraine crises.

But it is clear that the impact of isolation and reduction of capacity across even the most critical safeguarding, health and support services has made survivors more vulnerable. This, coupled with a clearly failing asylum system and our current Government's draconian response through the Nationality and Borders Act, means that demand for our services will only soar.

HBF and Asylum Aid's new three-year strategy prioritises partnerships and shared learning as the route to offering survivors access to recovery and protection. In particular, we want to ensure that our expertise in counter-trafficking is used to reduce the risks of survivors being re-trafficked, exploited and abused.

We also hope to welcome all of our wonderful supporters to a new Helen Bamber Foundation Group home in 2023, a home that will be a reflection of our clients, our values and our vision for the world. Finally, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the supporters who have helped us to get to where we are now. We wouldn't be able to do any of our vital work without you, and we look forward to continuing our journey together.

Kerry Smith, CEO & Charlotte Seymour-Smith, Chair of Trustees, Helen Bamber Foundation Group

HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION GROUP'S VISION, MISSION & THEORY OF CHANGE

We believe our society will be judged by how we care for those to whom we owe nothing. We are human rights organisations that focus on ensuring that survivors of extreme human rights abuses have everything they need to make a sustained recovery. We know that dignity restored is strength regained.

Vision

All survivors of trafficking, torture and extreme human cruelty have safety, freedom and power.

Mission

TO SUPPORT

Our Model of Integrated Care will directly or indirectly **support** survivors of trafficking and torture across the UK and beyond. We will also protect survivors from persecution, re-trafficking, exploitation and abuse.

TO ADVOCATE

As human rights **advocates**, we are uniquely placed as a result of our expertise, research and influence. We will bear witness to the suffering of survivors and fight for their rights.

TO COLLABORATE

We **collaborate** with others, especially those with lived experience, to find solutions to the challenges facing all survivors. We support the delivery of best practice to improve chances of recovery and prevent re-trafficking. We are a valuable partner for those seeking to influence UK, European and Global policy.

Theory of Change



HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION GROUP'S ACTIVITIES

Who do we work with — complex cases

As a result of their experiences, HBF Group clients have multiple and complex needs, and have often been let down by the system since their arrival in the UK. During 2021, we supported **more than 700 survivors of trafficking and torture** and more than 650 **vulnerable individuals** with welfare advice, of the latter over 80% of whom had backgrounds of migration or asylum or were people of colour.

Survivors typically suffer from acute psychological health conditions, severe physical injuries and medical conditions. Compounding this, and hindering their recovery, is a fear of persecution if returned to their country of origin or other countries where they have experienced harm. Additionally, the vast majority of our clients experience periods of destitution and homelessness, often multiple times, during their journey through the UK's legal systems. In HBF's experience, many refugees and asylum seekers who are survivors of trafficking and torture have been unable to access the justice and representation they so desperately need. Cuts to Legal Aid in 2012 resulted in the decimation of Legal Aid advice providers, and chronic and growing delays in decision-making, which left several legal providers unable to take on new clients while waiting for cases to reach the next stage. The work of Asylum Aid, therefore, is critical to the recovery of survivors, and to our ability as the Group to reach them with transformative support.

Our clients are often dangerously isolated and marginalised. Fear, emotional withdrawal and multiple barriers (such as language challenges, the inability to work or to open a bank account), can stand in the way of survivors trying new experiences, developing vital life skills, enjoying practical and creative interests, and forming positive relationships. Furthermore, even though they suffer multiple physical injuries and illnesses (many as a direct result of their experiences), they often have only sporadic and ineffective engagement with statutory healthcare providers.

Finally, some of our clients have spent their entire childhoods in slavery, while others have been trafficked after fleeing from human rights violations. Sadly, due to the particular and prolonged impact of slavery, survivors are extremely vulnerable to being re-targeted for further trafficking, exploitation and harm if left unsupported.

As a human rights and clinical organisation, HBF helps survivors to gain certainty in a challenging environment and to confront and overcome the multiple and complex traumas they have suffered, to improve their mental health, and to move forward with their lives.



Despite the ongoing challenges of the pandemic and the impact of isolation, we saw a **clinical improvement of 60%** among those clients where data is available.

A necessary focus — the prevention of re-trafficking

All of the above situations describe the circumstances of the survivors of trafficking and torture that HBF works with. These situations are compounded by the inhumanity of the immigration system that puts them at further risk. In particular, the impact of social isolation, the loss of in-person support and safeguarding services, and the delays and uncertainty of the Covid-19 pandemic provided opportunities for perpetrators to target, threaten and manipulate survivors — especially using online methods — giving rise to risks of re-trafficking, which our team had to manage. For example, a trafficker harassed and threatened a client and her daughter online, issuing threats and saying they had paternity rights over the child and would expose the client as a person who had been in prostitution in their country of origin. Other clients found that during the lockdown, traffickers had looked them up or contacted them on Facebook or other social media, which was concerning.

Clients are at the centre of everything we do. We share their stories to honour them and bear witness:

Chien's Story

Chien was trafficked in a lorry from Vietnam when he was 16. The vehicle was intercepted by the police in the UK. He was scared to talk to them because he had seen Vietnamese police work closely with the traffickers, so he did not trust them enough to ask for help.

The immigration authorities didn't believe that Chien was under 18 years old, and sent him to an immigration detention centre that should only hold adults. After he was released, he was taken to a train station and left alone. He knew very little English and had no possessions. After a night on the platform, a Vietnamese person approached Chien, offering to help.

They took Chien to a house where he was forced to work growing cannabis. He was beaten and tortured here. When the house was raided, Chien was detained again, this time charged with the crime of growing cannabis. Luckily, he was referred to a lawyer who secured his release and then referred him to the Helen Bamber Foundation.

We worked with Chien to gain trust, improving his accommodation, reducing his vulnerabilities, working to secure status and helping him recover from his trauma and reduce his risk of exploitation, abuse and re-trafficking. Chien is now rebuilding his life and overcoming the trauma he experienced.

However, his journey did not have to take as long as it did. Although Chien had several touchpoints with the UK authorities prior to becoming our client, he was never identified as a victim of trafficking, and he did not get the appropriate support for someone who was still underage and vulnerable. Chien was re-trafficked because of failures in the system.



A MODEL OF INTEGRATED CARE (MOIC)

We recognise the complexity of each client's suffering and needs, which is why HBF offers specialist services within a Model of Integrated Care. This encompasses:

THERAPY
MEDICAL ADVICE
LEGAL PROTECTION
COUNTER-TRAFFICKING SUPPORT
HOUSING & WELFARE
COMMUNITY & INTEGRATION

We craft a bespoke care plan for every individual we work with, designed to enable positive recovery, protection and integration. We provide support for as long as our services are needed. The goal of the Model of Integrated Care (MOIC) is to build a lasting and sustained recovery for each of our clients.

PROTECTION FROM PERSECUTION

At a time when securing quality Legal Aid representation is increasingly difficult for survivors, bringing Asylum Aid into the HBF Group has enabled us to support a further focus on protection from persecution. Asylum Aid works with separate individuals to those supported by the Helen Bamber Foundation, ensuring that as a Group we help more people. Asylum Aid ensures that these survivors are protected and can rebuild their lives in safety and with freedom by providing high quality legal representation for as long as it takes.



In 2021, Asylum Aid worked with **155 vulnerable individuals** and secured grants of protection for **45 clients**.

A UNIQUE VOICE

We estimate that across Europe, there are more than 1 million survivors who have experienced trafficking and torture. Prior to the pandemic, more than 8,000 survivors arrived in the UK each year. At the time of writing, the long-term impact of the wars in Afghanistan and Ukraine is unclear. However, our experience is that many vulnerable individuals will fall prey to traffickers who thrive in such crises. All these survivors would benefit from HBF's Model of Integrated Care and Asylum Aid's representation. However not all of them can become our clients. Therefore it is our responsibility to use the expertise we have gained through the time spent with and generosity of our clients to:

- Deliver **research** to provide evidence of best practice and what works
- Drive **system change** and the implementation of best practice
- **Publish and disseminate** our learnings, through briefings and reports
- Support the sector and share learnings through **training** and supervision

PART ONE:

DELIVERING SERVICES — MOIC

“At my first meeting with the Helen Bamber Foundation, I knew they were trying to understand me. I knew they cared about me. It saved my life.”

From the beginning of the pandemic, our team of expert doctors, psychologists, legal advisers and caseworkers acted to ensure that we could support our clients to weather the challenges and pre-empt risks where possible. This continued during 2021 where, apart from seven weeks in the second lockdown, our offices were open and we invited our clients to face-to-face appointments, as well as providing online and remote support where preferable for the client. Given the ongoing impact of the pandemic, we continued to:

- Focus on additional safeguarding measures for survivors of trafficking
- Provide therapeutic support using video-calls and taking measures to provide a Covid-safe in-person consultation space for those who needed it
- Deliver our medico-legal report service with remote assessment where responding to provide much-needed expert evidence for survivors, including those at risk of removal and then providing a Covid-safe in-person space for those who needed face-to-face assessment
- Give legal appointments using video-calls and the phone, as well as providing a Covid-safe face-to-face appointment space for clients who needed it
- Host our community and group activities, both online and in person.

It is important to highlight the positive contribution of, and send out particular thanks to, all of the volunteers who continued to support the Helen Bamber Foundation team and survivors we work with during the pandemic.

Helen Bamber Foundation Services

THERAPY

The Therapy team supports survivors within a phased, recovery framework:

- Starting with **stabilisation**, which is crucial to support individuals to develop trust and to manage acute symptoms such as flashbacks, low mood and anxiety. It involves a mix of psychoeducation –helping people to understand their symptoms in a psychologically informed way — and symptom management — supporting people to develop strategies to manage their symptoms on a day-to-day basis.
- When individuals are ready, and should they wish to, we offer **evidence-based, therapeutic interventions** to support clients to come to terms with their traumatic experiences.
- In the third phase, **integration**, we increase our emphasis on establishing supportive communities and building links with others.

We work collaboratively with other departments to resolve associated challenges such as the destitution and legal adversity that affect mental health.

During 2021, the HBF therapy team offered survivors access to a range of evidence-based therapies for PTSD, including:

- Trauma-focused Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (tfCBT)
- Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing (EMDR)
- Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET)

The pandemic threw many of the survivors we work with into crisis, and with many other public and charitable services having to shut their doors or reduce support (including key statutory services), our therapy provision and support continued to be a vital lifeline. Critically, during 2021 our offices remained open to deliver intensive evidence-based interventions face-to-face as many of our clients were unable to manage these remotely. We continued to provide symptom management and crisis management interventions remotely — and, where necessary, in person. Importantly, given the vulnerability of our clients, despite moving to hybrid and offering a greater number of face-to-face sessions, we maintained the high level of provision attained in 2020, providing essential support to 326 survivors with more than 1800 appointments. These included:

- 950 therapy appointments
- 528 psychoeducation/stabilisation appointments
- 273 assessment appointments

During the pandemic, we adapted to a 'light touch' approach for formal measures and monitoring, significantly reducing the assessment load for our clients.



Of a sample of 21 individuals who completed evidence-based trauma therapy in 2021, **95% showed clinically significant improvement in their trauma symptoms — a clinically significant reduction in their PTSD symptoms.**

Rashmi's story



Rashmi was tortured by the police in her home country because of allegations that her family were involved in an anti-Government movement. Rashmi was detained, questioned, beaten until she couldn't move and raped repeatedly over 4 days. After she was released, Rashmi fled and applied for asylum in the UK. Her solicitor recognised symptoms of trauma and referred her to the Helen Bamber Foundation. Rashmi suffered numerous symptoms of PTSD including deep seated distress, intrusive recollection and overwhelming anxiety.

At the Helen Bamber Foundation, Rashmi began a very difficult course of trauma-focused therapy which lasted 18 months. In therapy, Rashmi learned to acknowledge, confront and overcome her traumatic experiences. Whilst Rashmi was working with the Foundation's therapy team, her progress was often disrupted by practical difficulties. Her welfare support was frequently interrupted, leaving her without any income for days. Rashmi's claim for asylum was refused on the grounds that she did not disclose her experiences at the first opportunity. We worked with Rashmi's solicitor to appeal this decision, explaining that Rashmi's trauma was such that, without expert clinical support, she was not able to disclose her experiences. Whilst the appeal was in process, she was moved into unsuitable mixed gender accommodation where Rashmi, terrified, could not sleep and became increasingly distressed. We again worked with Rashmi's solicitor, providing expert clinical assistance to request relocation to more suitable, self-contained accommodation.

Despite all her challenges, Rashmi was dedicated to helping herself and began studying GCSEs in Maths and English at college. With the support of a Medico-Legal Report, Rashmi's appeal against her asylum decision was successful and she was granted refugee status. Our housing and welfare casework team worked intensively with Rashmi to secure safe, local authority housing. Once Rashmi was given permission to work, she was very keen not to be reliant on statutory support. Our volunteers worked with Rashmi, developing employability skills, identifying suitable opportunities, and preparing for interviews. Two months ago, Rashmi secured a part-time job in a supermarket, which allows her to continue her studies and her treatment whilst enjoying incredibly her well-deserved and hard-fought independence.

MEDICAL ADVICE

In 2021, the main parts of HBF's medical advice services were separated into two distinct strands: the Medical Advisory Service (MAS) and the Medico-Legal Report (MLR) writing medical services. The aim is to continue to develop the work of the Medical Advisory Service but to allow for the development of a stronger medical input into HBF's medicolegal services, particularly in the supervision, training, retention and consideration of the wellbeing of the MLR writers.

The MAS service is run by our Head of Medical Advisory Service, who leads four volunteer GPs as well as a volunteer physiotherapist and psychiatrist. MAS's routine work helps clients to understand, stabilise and improve their health by carrying out medical assessments and allowing time for comprehensive discussions and explanations of their health concerns, as well as liaising with external services, particularly the NHS, to support their needs. In 2021, MAS has continued to adapt and grow as it balances remote and face-to-face work with clients. It has continued to work with HBF's clients to help them navigate issues relating to the Covid pandemic, including offering detailed advice around the Covid vaccination programme. During the course of 2021, MAS provided 373 appointments for 159 clients.

It also continued to work closely with HBF's team of welfare volunteers to overcome the huge barriers to healthcare that remote working within the NHS — alongside language barriers and digital and phone poverty — created for our clients. In 2021, we started a project to develop a sustainable health education programme for HBF's clients and those of other partnership organisations.

LEGAL PROTECTION

The Legal Protection team works determinedly with other departments to ensure both that survivors are not returned to situations where they would likely suffer repeated human rights violations, and that they can access appropriate support. This year, due to the ongoing uncertainty regarding delays in decisions during lockdown, and delayed legal proceedings, the team worked tirelessly to provide support and advice to our clients, who were often very distressed.

We provided 412 survivors with legal protection services in 2021;



51 clients received legal protection such as refugee status, humanitarian protection or discretionary leave.

We continued to train expert clinicians in remote methods of examination, and produced 67 expert medico-legal reports for 57 clients, to support their claims for asylum.

During 2021, HBF's Legal Protection Team continued to support survivors in their protection cases by:

- Ensuring clients had good quality, reputable legal representation.
- Communicating with clients' solicitors regarding their needs, including providing evidence (in collaboration with other departments) regarding the impact of delays on mental health.
- Offering second-tier immigration advice (from the Head of Legal and the Specialist Counter-Trafficking Legal Officer) to solicitors representing vulnerable survivors.
- Helping clients understand their legal position and the resources available to them.
- Giving support and advice on other emergencies surrounding legal protection needs.
- Producing expert medico-legal evidence to document the (often long-term) psychological and/or physical impact of their traumatic experiences.

In 2021, the Legal Protection Team also:

- Worked closely with HBF's specialist Counter-Trafficking team in 154 cases to ensure that victims of trafficking, including survivors of sexual or labour exploitation, were provided with counter-trafficking letters or statements documenting their history and circumstances to support their legal protection claim.
- Worked to support clinical team members to provide 114 clinical letters to promote access to justice for disabled and vulnerable clients.
- Reviewed and provided 83 letters detailing a survivor's vulnerability to support their legal claims.

In 2021, the provision of medico-legal reports was disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic. These reports document the long-term physical and psychological impact of traumatic experiences and are used as evidence for international protection in the UK. Our expertise in preparing them continues to be recognised by the courts and tribunal and by the Home Office.



Our review of outcomes in 2021 showed that, following the provision of medico-legal reports in 2020, in 82% of cases the client was granted a form of leave to remain in the UK where the final outcome was known. This is compared with an average success rate of 71% for decisions made on initial claims and just under 50% successful on appeal in 2021.¹

¹ <https://freemovement.org.uk/briefing-the-sorry-state-of-the-uk-asylum-system/> & <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data> (year end 2021)

HOUSING AND WELFARE

HBF's specialist housing and welfare casework ensures that clients' practical, everyday needs are met and that social deprivation, including street homelessness and destitution, are avoided through timely and often emergency interventions. Given the ongoing impact of the pandemic on our clients' housing situations, the work of the Housing and Welfare department continued to increase — with 10% more interactions than in 2020 and 25% more than in 2019.



Thanks to our help, **307 people** were able to avoid destitution and homelessness and were kept safe, often with prolonged, expert and extensive casework support.

In 2021, the Housing and Welfare team provided 281 letters, and during the pandemic, the team assisted survivors with issues including (but absolutely not limited to):

- Applications for asylum support, including challenging and appealing unlawful decisions.
- Applications for mainstream benefits once they had status, including supporting clients to apply for disability benefits and child benefit, challenging and appealing incorrect decisions where needed.
- Making a homelessness application to the local authority.
- Ensuring survivors of trafficking are receiving outreach and financial support from the National Referral Mechanism (NRM).
- Approaching the local authority's adult social services for accommodation and support under the Care Act, due to high support needs.
- Challenging incorrectly-applied NHS debt.
- Supporting clients who have moved into temporary accommodation after being granted status, including claims and appeals of housing benefit, council tax and Universal Credit decisions.
- Applications for grants, including to alleviate destitution, buy disability related items, furnish accommodation, and support educational needs.

Over the course of 2021, as the commitment to address homelessness was dropped, instances of our clients being threatened with destitution increased by 475%, with homelessness by 337% and of being housed somewhere clinically unsuitable by 182%. During this year, the Housing and Welfare team provided 10,661 interventions for clients.

675 housing and welfare problems were resolved, of which:

- **42% with a short-term resolution were solved in under one month; and**
- **55% were resolved with a long-term resolution within one month and 83% within 3 months.**

A critical part of the Housing and Welfare team's work has been to support survivors who get leave to remain or refugee status to transition to Universal Credit and mainstream accommodation. This poses significant challenges as it involves several long and complicated online forms and often mounting appeals against decisions, as well as continued gatekeeping from stretched local authorities with limited temporary accommodation. The cost of living crisis has exacerbated things for clients who are for the most part already living on a very low income. The well-known issues with asylum support (financial and accommodation), including the very low rates of support and often inadequate and unsuitable accommodation, and within this, the long-term use of hotels, continue unabated.

Samira's story



Samira was trafficked to the UK and forced into sexual exploitation for many years. When the pandemic hit, she was living in a safehouse with her 2-year-old son and another baby on the way. She felt safe there but had been told that she couldn't stay after giving birth as the room wasn't big enough for all three of them.

Shortly after giving birth to her daughter the Home Office collected Samira and took her to her new accommodation. It was far away from anyone she knew, in a hotel with shared bathrooms. There were men living here too. Samira felt scared and unsafe, being around men reminded her of the abuse she had endured. She was flooded with memories of her traffickers, living in a state of anxiety, whilst trying to support her two young children.

Samira's caseworker at HBF negotiated with the Home Office for Samira to be moved into a more suitable room with her own bathroom so that she could feed and bathe her baby. We also made sure she had money to buy essential clothes and nappies. After an extremely turbulent and distressing few months, Samira now has refugee status and has moved into long-term accommodation. She is finally able to look for a nursery place for her son and is living in an area of London she knows. Now Samira feels safe again.

COUNTER-TRAFFICKING

The HBF Counter-Trafficking Programme delivers intricate, intensive and person-specific contact and safeguarding for survivors to support them through the many difficulties they face. We ensured that we continued regular contact and evidential support throughout the pandemic, using video calls wherever possible to prevent social isolation and build confidence. The Counter-Trafficking department is also central to HBF's strategy to prevent and end re-trafficking.

Our counter-trafficking programme work includes:

- Specialist Counter-Trafficking Assessments for each client.
- Co-ordination and consultation for each client with our internal multi-disciplinary HBF team and external stakeholders including victim care contract services, lawyers, police, healthcare services, housing services and other key stakeholders to ensure that our clients are fully heard and understood.
- Provision of documentation, letters and witness statements for legal procedures within asylum, immigration, the NRM, criminal justice and matters relating to social welfare, vocational endeavours and housing needs.
- Provision of ongoing contact and safeguarding support for all HBF's clients in the CT programme is key to our work. Our clients come to us with a series of risk indicators for re-trafficking. As we reduce these, we have to face the challenge of new risks arising. We keep a list of clients who are on 'high alert' for re-trafficking risks and review these on a weekly basis.
- Supporting and accompanying or advocating for survivors through the UK NRM, asylum interviews and court hearings and criminal trials is a significant component of our work and we consider it vital not to leave victims of trafficking alone to face impersonal, harsh and bureaucratic systems or risk re-traumatisation in court or interview settings.
- We liaise with specialist victim navigators for the Trafficking Specialist Unit of the Metropolitan police and other police forces, enabling clients to have meetings at our offices and supporting them to give information to police regarding their traffickers.
- We believe in making both civil and criminal compensation easier to access for victims of trafficking. In cases where it is provided to clients, we work with other teams at HBF to try to ensure that it does not disadvantage them or put them at risk.

We support to re-build their lives, emphasising their personal strength and resources to meet the many challenges they face including building self-esteem and agency for use against those who would re-traffic, exploit and abuse them. Due to the lack of overall specialist provision available for survivors of trafficking, in 2019 HBF set ourselves a target: up to 50% of all new clients would be survivors of trafficking. In 2021, we met that aim — 50% of all survivors supported by the Helen Bamber Foundation were survivors of trafficking. Across the Counter-Trafficking Programme:

- 126 clients (76 women and 50 men) from across countries in Africa, Asia and Central Europe were provided with specialist support from the Counter-Trafficking team due to their high level of vulnerability as victims of trafficking.
- On average, at any one time, approximately 20-25% of the team's caseload involves working with clients facing immediate risks relating to trafficking, exploitation or violence.



During this high-risk period, the Counter-Trafficking team provided 1870 interventions for clients.

The pandemic created an additional set of risk factors for HBF's clients in the Counter-Trafficking Programme. A main worry was an increase in online threats from both original traffickers and new potential perpetrators. Social isolation is a key risk factor in itself for re-trafficking, as well as its impact upon mental and physical health deterioration. It was vital to be in touch with each person and ensure that they had access to digital communications, a positive means of friendship and communication in which they could remain safe, rather than a lonely engagement which could result in re-trafficking and other risks, and were supported to access primary services. In response, the team applied a rota of 'at risk' individuals for contact calls, as well as ensuring that trafficking risks are noted and prioritised.

During 2021 the Counter-Trafficking team also continued to issue letters and/or witness statements for clients' legal cases in the NRM and asylum applications.

COMMUNITY AND INTEGRATION

Through the Community and Integration Programme, our clients can engage in activities unrelated to their trauma and form safe and positive relationships with others in a similar position. They learn new skills and develop confidence and independence. This is a key part of our three-stage therapeutic model that ensures our clients have the strength to move on. In 2020, we moved all of our community groups online. The volunteers who run the different creative arts and skills groups surpassed themselves in adapting to online provision and imaginatively ensuring that our clients could still access a supportive community.

In 2021, HBF expanded its community and integration activities, supporting a total of 269 clients. Due to the pandemic, with many other social opportunities closed off, the team focused on providing access to further and higher education, resulting in:

- **5 clients enrolling in university**
- **33 clients attending college courses due to a successful new partnership with Mary Ward College**

The Community Group is a weekly group designed to support our most isolated clients to participate in a community where they can socialise regularly, gain useful information and skills, as well as increase their confidence and independence, in a fun and relaxed space. The pandemic has made this work much more difficult due to changing Covid rules, the need to provide a Covid-safe environment, and increased isolation and anxiety amongst our clients. However, by working in consultation with our clients, we have slowly been building attendance. In 2021, 38 clients attended our online Community Group. As well as an average of 30 clients a month attended yoga, textiles, English and photography, both online and, eventually, in-person

PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Participation at HBF exists to recognise survivors' expertise by experience, and we work to ensure that survivors have increased power in the face of the inequalities they experience. We amplify their voices so that they can participate in decisions that affect them. We are committed to supporting survivors to advocate for the policy changes that matter most to them, and to ensuring survivors can participate in the design and shaping of the service we offer. Over the last year, we have expanded our Community & Integration team to support these aims.

Ambassadors for Change

In 2021, we launched an Ambassadors for Change leadership programme, driven by a desire from the survivors we work with to challenge the harmful policies, practices, and public attitudes their community faces in London.

- Ten Ambassadors joined to make positive changes for survivors. Through fortnightly meetings, Ambassadors on the Programme receive support advocacy training, to identify and prioritise the most pressing concerns for their community.
- In Spring 2022, the Ambassadors attended their first residential planning trip. During the stay, we delivered core strategic analysis workshops to enable them to plan the impact they hope to achieve in London.
- Between Summer 2022 and Summer 2024, the Ambassadors will be supported to implement their advocacy plan. They intend to approach decision-makers in the local community, and to identify arising opportunities for influencing the changes they hope to achieve.

Service design

Since 2017, the Helen Bamber Foundation's dialogue with survivors about service design has centered around a Service User Group, now called the Clients Voices Forum. Since the pandemic, we have ring-fenced capacity for participation work with clients, to actively engage survivors in service design and to ensure their views are considered by organisational decision-makers. Since the pandemic, recent matters on which we have consulted with survivors have included:

- A review of pandemic-related service changes and future focus
- The Foundation's anti-racism action planning
- Priority health matters for survivors (the results of which are currently being used to create a tailor-made health education programme for survivors)
- The inclusivity of language used about survivors by the Foundation in our communications

Between 2022 and 2024, we intend to conduct a comprehensive client-services review in tandem with the survivors HBF supports, to ensure that the client journey offered at the Foundation is fit for purpose. This will be coordinated to ensure the lived experience of survivors is included at each stage of the review.



We have also recently introduced **two new Board Observer roles** to our Board of Trustees. The Board Observers contribute their knowledge, experience, and skills as experts by experience to support Trustees' strategic decision-making. This has provided much-needed direct insight, helping Board members to understand the potential impact of their proposals for the client group at HBF.

Asylum Aid Services — protection from persecution

To increase the scope of our work and protect more people at a time when securing quality Legal Aid representation is increasingly difficult for survivors, bringing Asylum Aid into the HBF Group enables us to support our aim of increasing protection for survivors. Asylum Aid ensures that survivors are protected and can rebuild their lives by providing high quality legal representation for survivors in order to establish their safety and freedom. Asylum Aid works with separate individuals to those supported by the Helen Bamber Foundation, ensuring that as a Group we help more people.

In 2021, the team provided legal representation to 132 survivors of trafficking, torture and gender-based violence, refugees and people seeking asylum, and 23 stateless persons. Through the hard work of our expert team of caseworkers, 45 of our clients were granted protection during the year, and 11 clients were recognised as victims of trafficking.

Recognising that complex cases require time, the Asylum Aid team listen closely to every individual client to make sure we understand as much as we can of their experiences. As a result, we have an above average success rate for our clients, giving them the best chance of securing the protection they need.



At a time when the majority of decisions have been delayed, 58 international protection cases were resolved, with 45 successfully resulting in protection — an amazing 78% success rate.

The team also provided welfare advice to more than 670 individuals through the Westminster Advice Services Partnership. Asylum Aid's welfare advice team specialises in providing advice to vulnerable migrant communities in Westminster, many of whom do not have English as a first language. Our advisers and volunteers are multilingual and we work with volunteer community interpreters. In 2021, 80% of those receiving welfare support from Asylum Aid were either migrants and/or people of colour and more than 40% had a disability or long-term ill health.



Across the year, Asylum Aid secured over £360,000 in additional support for its clients.

Partnership and Collaborations

Our work is collaborative- we strengthen, and are strengthened by, the work of others. HBF is continuing to work in partnership with **Young Roots** to support hard-to-reach separated asylum-seeking children and young people, who often face greater barriers in accessing mental health and other support, with assessments, stabilization interventions and evidence-based therapy. During 2021, the HBF team also consulted young people in hotel accommodation about their mental health, concluding that drop-in spaces that enable connections, the reduction of isolation, and an immediate means of contacting family back home on arrival, were important.

The lack of access to vital mental health services during the pandemic was challenging for many organisations. Given the ongoing impact of the pandemic, we continued our partnership with **Women for Refugee Women** to offer clinical support to the women in their network. We provided clinical assessments that facilitated access to mental health services; delivered training and support to their team and provided therapeutic interventions to help women stabilize and manage their mental health.

Baran's story

Baran is an Iranian woman and a survivor of multiple forms of violence and abuse, sustained over many years. She was isolated and in a precarious financial and legal position. Baran contacted Women for Refugee Women (WRW) over lockdown as her mental health had deteriorated, and she had started to experience active suicidal ideation.



Baran was seen for a mental health assessment by a clinical psychologist through the WRW/HBF partnership where she revealed that she was suffering from very serious problems with her physical health for which she was not accessing treatment and that she had not disclosed the deterioration in her mental health to her GP. Baran was very fearful of engaging with the NHS as she reported having previously encountered negative and stigmatizing responses from certain services. Baran presented with PTSD and her symptoms included nightmares, fearfulness, hypervigilance, guilt and shame.

The psychologist undertook extensive liaison work with Baran's GP, mental health services and a caseworker at Notre Dame Refugee Centre to resolve the multiple barriers to Baran's engagement with NHS services.

Baran herself worked hard with the psychologist to overcome her fears about engagement. Baran was also provided with extended initial phase trauma focused therapy stabilization. Baran re-engaged with the treatment that she needed to address her physical health and, once stabilization sessions were finished, she successfully engaged with further trauma focused therapy supported through her GP. Baran started to attend the WRW groups that met remotely over lockdown and was referred to, and accepted by, HBF for a medico-legal report to assist with her asylum claim.

In December 2020, **University College Hospital** piloted and hosted an integrated model of NHS care for newly arriving asylum seekers, delivering services either directly into initial or contingency accommodation or indirectly to primary care practices in Camden, Islington and Barnet. With our experience of integrated care for asylum seekers, the HBF clinical team has been able to provide a series of training sessions to frontline healthcare professionals. The therapy team were subsequently invited to provide psychological consultation to a series of fortnightly multi-disciplinary meetings, helping clinicians to identify appropriate services and providing suggestions about the timing, relevance, and delivery of mental health interventions. This work is ongoing. Thoughtful prioritising of interventions is frequently a focus, as is promoting choice with families: in one, case a family member was supported to advocate effectively for the right support for a child.

PART TWO:

CREATING SYSTEM CHANGE — RESEARCH, POLICY AND PRACTICE

Our vision is a world where *all survivors of torture, trafficking and extreme human cruelty have safety, freedom and power*. We therefore use our combined expertise to deliver meaningful policy and practice change that improves the asylum and trafficking systems and ensures that all survivors receive the appropriate standard of care from government services nationally and internationally. We are excited that the group structure and our new strategy will enable us to have much greater impact on the systems that should be giving survivors of trafficking and torture the protection and support they need.

We do this by:

- Improving the environment that all survivors experience, by using our clinical and organisational expertise to influence and contribute to the development of law, policy and best practice.
- Driving the development and delivery of effective, evidence-based approaches that respond to survivors' needs, in the UK and globally, by offering expert training and disseminating our research findings.
- Investigating the consequences of our clients' experiences, including those in the UK, on their health and wellbeing. Improving understanding of the clinical and other vulnerabilities of survivors of trafficking and torture and the complexity of their trauma following an atrocity.

Strategic Legal Work

HBG engages in strategic legal work where it seeks to improve the legal systems (for international protection and trafficking), further the rights of our clients and increase their access to justice.

Due to the ongoing effects of the pandemic, it became clear that continued engagement in strategic legal work was going to be critical to ensuring the safety and protection of our clients. In 2021, we were involved in six strategic litigation challenges. The majority of the evidence we provided was in the form of witness statements, with input and oversight from the Director of Legal Protection, which concerned challenges to the fairness of various aspects of the asylum and National Referral Mechanism system for survivors of trafficking.

A significant case, given this UK Government's desire to expand the use of detention and accelerate decision-making processes, is that of **TN Vietnam²** — a joint intervention with **Detention Action** in the Supreme Court about the poor identification of vulnerability in the detained fast-track, and how negative decisions taken under that unlawful process should be treated now. Our intervention included a witness statement from Cornelius Katona, Medical and Research Director, with input from Rachel Witkin, Director of Counter-Trafficking and Publications. Whilst the overall challenge was unsuccessful in striking down all appeal decisions made within the Detention Fast Track (a system already found to be unlawful), the Supreme Court highlighted our joint evidence as helpful and reiterated the need for a case-by-case assessment of whether the appeal decision had been affected by the systemic failings within the Detention Fast Track.

We supported the successful legal **challenge brought to challenge the use of barracks accommodation at Napier, Kent**. A witness statement was provided by Professor Katona and has since been relied upon in further prospective litigation regarding the use of contingency accommodation as further issues remain (see below).



The court found the Home Office's decision to house people in barracks as both unlawful and irrational having regard to adequate accommodation standards and the deprivation of liberty of those held in the barracks. As a result of the challenge a large number of individuals were rehoused in suitable accommodation.

The continuation of our strategic litigation work, either as an intervener or in providing witness statement evidence of our experts, is key to holding the government to account and ensuring that survivors have access to justice and are safe. With the Nationality and Borders Act coming into force, plus the incoming Bill of Rights and other bills tabled that restrict human rights, there will be greater need for strategic litigation and sector collaboration. We also provided evidence in:

- A challenge to the cessation of mental health support for trafficking survivors, setting out the impacts on this group.
- A challenge to the suitability of accommodation, such as hotels, for survivors of trafficking.
- A challenge to the use of contingency accommodation for survivors of torture and trafficking with specific mental health difficulties.
- A challenge to the requirement to stop individuals at the airport where there is an unpaid NHS debt, which was incorrectly applied.
- A challenge regarding the nature and impact of the pandemic on destitute people seeking asylum.
- A challenge to the 'Rough Sleeper' rules, which would have disproportionately affected survivors of trafficking and result in further exploitation. This was a proposed joint intervention with ATLEU, in RAMFEL's challenge, but ultimately following pre-action correspondence, the Home Office guidance was amended to reduce the most damaging aspects of the rules.

At a time when the right to challenge executive power through the rule of law is being actively undermined by this Government, the Helen Bamber Foundation Group is committed to ensuring scrutiny of government policy and practice when there are negative impacts upon the survivors we work with.

² <https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/uksc-2020-0031.html>

Policy and best practice

In 2021 we launched our [new policy strategy](#), setting out how we would use our authoritative medico-legal expertise, alongside evidence from our frontline work and research, to secure ongoing policy change, and work collaboratively with others in the sector to deliver systems change. Our advocacy focusses on four key areas — legal protection, a safe and supportive environment, recovery and integration, and preventing re-trafficking.

Much of our focus in 2021 was on responding to the government's New Plan for Immigration and the subsequent process of bringing into legislation the new Nationality and Borders Act, which is set to increase the suffering and distress of survivors by creating an even more unfair and inhumane asylum system and by increasing barriers to identification and support for survivors of trafficking. This government's hostile narratives about channel crossings, the 'migrant crisis' and the role of charities and 'activist lawyers' are proving difficult to dismiss and will have a profound impact on the environment in which we work to support the recovery and protection of our clients.

We set out our concerns in detail in our [response to the consultation on the New Plan for Immigration](#), provided [evidence on the Bill to the Public Bill Committee](#) and [Joint Committee on Human Rights](#), and then [briefed parliamentarians](#) throughout the passage of the Bill about the devastating impact that it would have on survivors in the following areas:

- We opposed the introduction of a two-tier system of refugee protection, informing parliamentarians about the negative impact on survivors, as well as briefing as part of the Together for Refugees coalition.
- We briefed against provisions for the use of 'accommodation centres' to house those seeking asylum and the [introduction of offshore processing](#) of asylum applications, and drafted a [joint letter](#) with Doctors of the World and other health organisations highlighting the devastating health impact the Bill would have on those seeking asylum. HBF's work was cited by MPs during the House of Commons Committee debates.
- We opposed measures in the Bill that would mean late evidence and late claims are seen as lacking in credibility or unmeritorious, ignoring established evidence on the impact of trauma on disclosure.
- We worked with the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner to help shaped her [robust response to New Plan for Immigration](#) and [criticism of the Bill](#) and joined more than 100 other organisations in writing a [joint letter to MPs](#) highlighting how measures in Part 5 (modern slavery) would result in survivors of trafficking not being identified and blocked from support.
- We briefed members of the APPG on Trafficking and supported an amendment to introduce 12 months' support and leave to remain for confirmed survivors of trafficking (tabled by Iain Duncan-Smith) which resulted in the Government commitment that "all those who receive a positive conclusive grounds decision and are in need of tailored support will receive appropriate individualised support for a minimum of 12 months."
- With ECPAT UK and the Refugee Council, we drafted the [Refugee and Migrant Children's Consortium briefings](#) on the government's new age assessment clauses, described as 'excellent' and repeated almost verbatim by the then Shadow Immigration Minister.

1. LEGAL PROTECTION

Through ongoing engagement with the Home Office, we worked to improve the current system to ensure that: survivors of trafficking and torture are identified; asylum decisions are quicker and of a better quality; and all survivors have fair access to protection with quality legal advice.



We successfully improved the Asylum Process Instruction on Medical Evidence in Asylum Claims and helped secure the introduction of a code of conduct for Home Office Presenting Officers in appeal hearings.

We also urged the Home Office to consider granting status on the papers; took part in an expert roundtable on 'Exploring barriers to asylum seekers accessing legal service'; and raised concerns about decision-making on survivors' asylum claims when they have been referred into the National Referral Mechanism.

We co-authored a report, '[Bridging a Protection Gap: Disability and the Refugee Convention](#)', with support from the UNHCR and Garden Court Chambers, which was [launched in April 2021](#). A shorter [analysis of Home Office refusal decisions of disabled clients](#) was shared with the Home Office for response and taken forward through the Strategic Engagement Equalities Subgroup (which we co-chaired), alongside the issue of [mental capacity and referral into the NRM](#).

We also [collaborated](#) to raise urgent concerns about Home Office delays for young people seeking asylum, which was [covered in the media](#).

2. A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

It is critical that our clients have access to trauma-focused treatment and are supported in a trauma-informed way. We continued to work collaboratively with Medical Justice, Doctors of the World, the Humans for Rights Network and Jesuit Refugee Service, to highlight the harm caused to survivors housed in the Napier Barracks in Kent. We provided [oral](#) and [written evidence](#) to the APPG on Immigration Detention's inquiry into Quasi-detention, and our evidence was cited in a [parliamentary debate on asylum seekers' mental health](#) in April. We [published a briefing](#) drawing on our research on the impact of accommodation centres on the health of people seeking asylum.



We were delighted that the Napier Barracks [legal challenge](#) was successful and our evidence accepted as part of that challenge.

Our medical experts also conducted a systemic review of the effect on health of institutional accommodation.

In May, the Home Office introduced secondary legislation that would result in more survivors of trafficking being placed in immigration detention. We subsequently took on the role of chair of the [Taskforce on Victims of Trafficking in Immigration Detention](#) ('Taskforce'), with Focus on Labour for Exploitation — a coalition of 13 expert organisations working with, or for, victims of trafficking that aims to ensure none of them are detained under immigration powers. Our first action was a [joint statement](#) raising concerns about the introduction of a new decision-making body for the purpose of identifying victims of trafficking: the 'Immigration Enforcement Competent Authority' (IECA). The statement was supported by a further 17 organisations and shared with the relevant Ministers and civil servants. The Taskforce continued to work together to highlight how the IECA and the Nationality and Borders Bill would result in survivors of trafficking being detained and removed before they are formally identified. HBF continued to work with the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration to feed into his third annual inspection of 'Adults at Risk in immigration detention'.



The Summer saw the calamitous roll-out of ASPEN cards, resulting in [thousands going without asylum support](#) due to administrative errors. Through joint lobbying of the Home Office, **we ensured that formal escalation routes were put in place to help our clients**

However, the ASPEN roll out process was still disastrous for many survivors – we therefore provided evidence for the subsequent Asylum Matters report '[Lessons Learned? How government contracts failed people seeking asylum, again](#)'. We also prepared a detailed submission to the Home Office's annual asylum support rates review, highlighting the impact of low asylum support rates on our clients' emotional, material and physical wellbeing and calling for them to be raised to more realistically reflect the needs of asylum seekers.

3. RECOVERY AND INTEGRATION

HBF submitted a [detailed response](#) to the Greater London Authority consultation on adult education, training and employment, which included the direct views of 17 HBF clients, highlighting the need for the acquisition of English language and other basic skills to be seen as a priority and for further steps to address the structural and financial barriers that often prevent survivors from participating in learning. We were pleased to see the final GLA 'roadmap' include a strong commitment from the GLA to improve coordination of English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) and fully fund courses for asylum seekers, both of which we called for in our recommendations. We also played an active role in the Home Office Mental Health Steering group, with representatives from the NHS, devolved administrations, third sector, Home Office and Department for Health and Social Care, working on developing a "trauma-informed and culturally competent framework" for organisations engaging with asylum seekers.

In July, we co-drafted a letter with the Da'aro Youth Project to Nadine Dorries MP, then Minister for Suicide Prevention, highlighting [concerns regarding the high number of suicides amongst teenagers](#) who arrived in the UK as unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. Many of the young people died after they had aged out of care (at 18 or 19 years old) and there was no process by which to undertake a review of what had happened to them.



In response, the Department for Education agreed to expand the requirement for local authorities' Serious Incident Notifications **to include all deaths of care-leavers up to the age of 25 years old.**

This is wonderful news but there is further work to do and we continue to push for coroners' [data collection on deaths by suicide](#) to include ethnicity.

4. THE PREVENTION OF RE-TRAFFICKING

HBF's has delivered key international and national publications, research projects, as well as the developing of a wider counter-trafficking community of practice with national and international experts from fields connected to counter-trafficking.



Alongside our work on part five of the Bill, HBF submitted detailed evidence to the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner and Rights Lab on the prevention of re-trafficking, which was reflected in a **powerful report published in November**.

We also [submitted a number of recommendations](#) to the Modern Slavery Strategy Review, including an overarching call for the strategy to more clearly recognise that preventing individuals from becoming victims must include the prevention of re-trafficking of persons who have previously been trafficked.

In addition, throughout 2021 our Director of Counter-Trafficking & Publications, Rachel Witkin, was a lead consultant and author for the **Organisation on Security and Cooperation in Europe's (OSCE)** revised [handbook on National Referral Mechanisms](#), working with a panel of international trafficking experts, including survivor leaders. Our clinical and medical experts across the HBF team also worked collaboratively to deliver the health information chapter.

The NRM Handbook was published in January 2022 and distributed widely to governments and all relevant stakeholders in the 57 OSCE member states.

The UK is facing many changes in responses to modern slavery, particularly with the introduction of the 'Immigration Enforcement Competent Authority', which will make vital decisions on trafficking cases that impact the lives and futures of survivors. The Nationality and Borders Act also conflicts with the need to address victims' vulnerability and ignores the difficulties of disclosure and the need for trauma-informed methods of working. Internationally, the Director of Counter-Trafficking is engaged with OSCE projects to provide and monitor standards of care and legal rights for victims of trafficking in the OSCE participating States and has worked with Anti-Slavery International and the International Survivors Advisory Council (ISTAC) on projects relating to survivor leader participation at all levels of anti-trafficking work.

The Medical Advisory Service team spends a significant amount of time engaging with sector-wide (both NGOs and statutory service) policy, guidance and training on asylum and counter trafficking health matters. This has been focused primarily on health-related counter-trafficking issues.

Training

HBF provides training across three broad areas:

- Working with, and better protecting, survivors of trafficking
- Therapeutic approaches in working with refugee and asylum-seeking populations
- The application of medico-legal evidence

Our training programme continues to expand, partly due to the willingness post pandemic to receive and deliver online training. **In 2021, we delivered training to more than 500 individuals in statutory services and more than 150 individuals in non-statutory services.** Highlights from our training programme and outreach, which has expanded due to the willingness to receive training online, included:

- Our partnership with **Freedom from Torture** and the UK Visas and Immigration policy team to deliver a medico-legal report training programme (Assessing Evidence: Medicolegal Reports) for technical specialists and senior caseworkers — training that continues to receive excellent feedback and paves the way for sustainable change.
- We trained other NGOs on medical evidence and clinical letter writing, including Spirasi in the Republic of Ireland.
- We provided training on trafficking-related mental health as part of a FCO-organised event for professionals in Cyprus, and contributed to joint training (with ATLEU) for UK legal professionals on mental health and engagement in legal proceedings.



We trained therapy professionals in working with complex trauma through several modules provided to psychology doctoral training programmes. One participant described it as **“the best training I’ve received across my entire doctorate”**.

- We provided training to a wide variety of NHS staff (including safeguarding teams, general practitioners, midwives, women’s health physiotherapists) on the health concerns of trafficking survivors and of refugees and people seeking asylum.
- We provided training for judges and barristers in making sense of medicolegal evidence.

[The Trauma-Informed Code of Conduct for All Professionals Working with Survivors of Trafficking and Slavery](#) (2021) (TiCC), authored by Rachel Witkin and Dr Katy Robjant and published in 2018, was updated in 2020 to include further information on working with ‘cultural mediators’. It was then re-published and re-designed to include safe and trauma-informed methods of working online. It has been widely shared across the UK and global sectors, prompting frequent requests for training. Training on Trauma-Informed Code of Conduct (TiCC) is delivered for stakeholders across the anti-trafficking sector nationally and internationally. It has been delivered to sectors including the police, the Crown Prosecution Service, UK Home Office, Care Quality Commission, safe houses and services operating under the victim care contract.



In particular, we are proud of the **adoption of the TiCC** by St. Mary’s University, London for its short course **‘Identification, support and care of victims of modern day slavery’** — which provides professionals in health and social care, law enforcement and criminal justice, civil society organisations, education or local and national government with the skills to support survivors of modern slavery.

Internationally, TiCC training has been delivered through OSCE forums including International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Committee, Border Guards and Government departments (for example, Govt of Georgia).

The TiCC is a simple, accessible guide for all professionals who may find themselves working with survivors of trafficking. It has a firm basis in the combination of specialist trauma care and experiential multi-faceted and multi-disciplinary work with survivors of trafficking. TiCC is concise and easy to follow for busy people, enabling them to:

- Establish and maintain a mutual relationship of trust with survivors in any working context or environment.
- Impart a consistent sense of calm, security and safety throughout the course of their work.
- Increase the confidence of survivors and minimise the risks of causing distress and re-traumatisation.
- Remain safe and well in the course of their work, avoiding secondary traumatisation and professional 'burnout'.

This training has been seen as very helpful to many of the statutory professionals we have provided it to. One police officer gave the following feedback:

"I just wanted to say a huge THANK YOU for taking the time to deliver such an information session. I've had a few conversations with people today and they found it really useful. In particular, some of the more experienced officers also commented on how practical it was and a good reminder of being more mindful. A few commented on how it's the little things that can make a huge difference. Really grateful for your time and I look forward to working with you in the near future."

Research and dissemination

We spoke at several conferences during the year. **Critically, our feasibility and pilot study of Narrative Exposure Therapy in the treatment of survivors of trafficking has been published. The results provide strong support for a full-scale trial.**

We currently have the following projects ongoing:

- A 'proof of concept' Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) study exploring the biological underpinning of trust-related abnormalities in survivors of multiple and repeated trauma who have 'complex PTSD'. This is in collaboration with partners at [King's College London](#).
- A systematic review of the use of witchcraft and related rituals as forms of control in survivors of human trafficking (now in press).
- A study of the effectiveness of case management in the care of survivors of trafficking (funded by the [National Institute of Health Research](#) and led by [King's College London](#)).
- A pilot study of an assertiveness intervention for survivors of forced labour.
- A pilot study of 'moral injury' in survivors of trafficking.
- A qualitative study evaluating the meaning of community in the lives of people with experiences of torture and trafficking.
- A qualitative study assessing experiences of forced labour.

We are also involved two key research projects funded by the Modern Slavery PEC: The Modern Slavery Core Outcome Set, a Delphi-based, survivor-led project to establish uniform expectations and core outcomes for all stakeholders involved in service delivery for survivors; and a project on British Survivors who are victims of domestic trafficking in the UK.

In 2021, we also published the following articles:

- Waterman, L. Z., Pillay, M., & Katona, C. (2021). [The mass release of migrants from UK immigration detention during the COVID-19 pandemic: What can be learned?](#). BJPsych Bulletin. doi:10.1192/bjb.2021.110
- Abbas, P., Von Werthern, M., Katona, C., Brady, F., & Woo, Y. (2021). [The texture of narrative dilemmas: Qualitative study in front-line professionals working with asylum seekers in the UK](#). BJPsych Bulletin, 45 (1), 8-14. doi:10.1192/bjb.2020.33
- Waterman, L. Z., Pillay, M., Sen, P., Crowley, G., Forrester, A., & Katona, C. (2022). [It is time to expand community alternatives to immigration detention](#). The BMJ, 376. doi:10.1136/bmj.o458
- Jowett, S., Argyriou, A., Scherrer, O., Karatzias, T., & Katona, C. (2021). [Complex post-traumatic stress disorder in asylum seekers and victims of trafficking: Treatment considerations](#). BJPsych Open, 7 (6). doi:10.1192/bjo.2021.1007
- Moore, T., Burgess, R., & Katona, C. (2021). [Finding agency in limbo: a qualitative investigation into the impact of occupational engagement on mental health and wellbeing of asylum seekers in the U.K.](#) Transcultural Psychiatry.
- Sen, P., Crowley, G., Moro, C., Slade, K., Khan, A. A., Katona, C., & Forrester, A. (2021). [Mental health in immigration detention: A comparison of foreign national ex-prisoners and other detainees](#). CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR AND MENTAL HEALTH, 31 (4), 275-287. doi:10.1002/cbm.2207
- Brady, F., Chisholm, A., Walsh, E., Ottisova, L., Bevilacqua, L., Mason, C., . . . Katona, C. (2021). [Narrative exposure therapy for survivors of human trafficking: feasibility randomised controlled trial](#). BJPSYCH OPEN, 7 (6), PII S2056472421010292. doi:10.1192/bjo.2021.1029
- de Silva, U., Glover, N., & Katona, C. (2021). [Prevalence of complex post-traumatic stress disorder in refugees and asylum seekers: systematic review](#). BJPSYCH OPEN, 7 (6), PII S2056472421010139. doi:10.1192/bjo.2021.1013
- Brady, F., Katona, C., Walsh, E., & Robjant, K. (2021). [Psychotherapy and Refugees](#). In D. BHUGRA (Ed.), Oxford Textbook of Migrant Psychiatry. Oxford University Press, USA. doi:10.1093/med/9780198833741.003.0058
- Waterman, L. Z., Pillay, M., & Katona, C. (2021). [Sharing health data for immigration control affects marginalised communities](#). BMJ-BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, 373, ARTN n1042. doi:10.1136/bmj.n1042
- Boutros, S., Hunt, J. (2021). Handbook of Refugee Health: Chapter on Care of Survivors of Torture and Trafficking. CRC Press <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/chapters/edit/10.1201/9780429464874-15/care-survivors-torture-trafficking-sarah-boutros-jane-hunt>
- Hunt, J., Katona, C., Witkin, R. (2021). Identifying Human Trafficking in Adults. BMJ
- Roberts, R., Argyriou, A. (2021). HBF Community Group: a psychological approach for asylum seekers and refugees with experiences of extreme torture. Clinical Psychology Forum

OUR 2022-2024 STRATEGY

Continued strategic review is essential to ensure improvements for our clients. In 2021, we embarked on a comprehensive review of our strategy, all the more relevant in a post-pandemic world. We found that our strategy continues to deliver against the complex needs of our clients, with the goal of **ensuring that all survivors of trafficking, torture and extreme human cruelty have safety, freedom and power**. In 2022-2024 we will continue to:

- **Improve** care by working with our clients to evolve and strengthen our services in order to demonstrate what works and share learnings with others
- **Expand** access through partnerships to ensure that more survivors receive the support they need
- **Drive** meaningful policy and practice change that improves systems and ensures that all survivors receive the appropriate standard of care from services nationally and internationally

However, we also know that survivors of trafficking are significantly vulnerable to further abuse, exploitation and trafficking. That even when survivors are in contact with the services who are supposed to help, they remain frighteningly vulnerable to predators who seek out those who can be controlled and manipulated. We are now in the position to challenge the systems that either allow or enable this to happen. Specifically because the Helen Bamber Foundation Group works with survivors of trafficking over the long term, we are uniquely placed to understand and tackle the factors contributing to the continued vulnerability of survivors of trafficking to exploitation, abuse and re-trafficking, even after seeking help. These include:

- The lack of appropriate skills or resources to recognise and successfully respond to a trafficking situation on the front line results in many survivors falling through the gaps.
- Lengthy legal processes and lack of specialist legal representation leave survivors at risk of re-trafficking due to lack of secure immigration status and legal protection.
- Little provision for long-term, trauma-focused care means Survivors remain psychologically vulnerable to further exploitation and abuse.
- Prolonged destitution and limited access to education and legitimate employment opportunities leaves survivors vulnerable to traffickers seeking to isolate and manipulate their victims, who may not know their rights and entitlements.

Therefore, in 2022-2024 strategy, we will drive forward a programme dedicated to the Prevention of Re-Trafficking focussing on: increasing successful early interventions that reduce survivors' vulnerability in the UK and globally; curtailing the risk of re-trafficking in the UK by increasing access to legal protection; improving understanding and awareness across services in the UK; and driving international system changes to improve protection globally.

*"They've never made me feel guilty or judged. Instead, I feel that I am not alone.
Whatever I go through, they go through with me."*

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Framework

Policies relating to reserves and the need to generate an annual operating surplus together provide a financial framework within which HBF seeks to function.

Reserves policy

Forming part of our reserves, the unrestricted general fund is the working fund of the charity. Unlike the other funds, it is not restricted or designated for a defined purpose. The unrestricted general fund provides for activities not funded by earned income or restricted funding and for the general administration of the charity. It also provides working capital for operations and helps to provide resources to ensure that the charity is able to continue with its obligations.

Our Group policy is to maintain an unrestricted general fund of between three (£676,663) and six months (£1,353,326), of gross expenditure for the next financial year. Given the importance of being confident that the group can maintain its support to our very vulnerable clients, the trustees aim to increase the sum in the unrestricted general fund.

In December 2021, Helen Bamber Foundation Group ended the year positively with unrestricted reserves of £705,122, after allowing for designated funds (note 15 a) which is equivalent to 3.13 months cover.

Summary of results

In 2021, activities resulted in a surplus of £92,946, a fantastic result given the difficult fundraising environment due to the Covid-related lack of event income. This was due to the quick response of funders to help charities meet the ongoing challenge. The organisation continued to focus on expenditure to make sure we could adapt our services to the needs of our clients as well as make savings and efficiencies where possible.

HBF ended 2021 in a good financial position with a total unrestricted fund of £1,189,760 (£1,173,654) in 2020. The Trustees have set up a New Premises Move designated fund of £250,000 in order to meet planned expenditure during 2022 and 2023 on securing an exciting new premises from which to increase our impact upon survivors of trafficking and torture. Additionally £209,849 relating to casework in progress has also been moved to designated funds, leaving unrestricted general funds of £705,122 (£1,140,379 in 2020). The casework in progress is an asset which we have reasonable expectation will become convertible into cash at a future date but have not included it in the free reserves due the timing uncertainty. The unrestricted general fund is £648,204 below the top end of the current target level of reserves of about £1,353,326, although above the bottom end of the target range. A budget showing a surplus has been set for 2022.

Risks

The significant risks to which the HBF group is exposed, as identified by the trustees, have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate these risks. Among the risks identified, the most significant are considered to be:

- Event fundraising, a key element of the diversity of HBF groups' income, remains a challenge.
- The challenge of ensuring that funds are raised for Asylum Aid to fill the gap left by the delays in receipt of Legal Aid funding due to delays in decision making and therefore closure of cases.
- The uncertainty over further lockdowns and the execution of Covid-19 secure workplaces, which place an operational strain on the services that remain at high demand.
- The increasingly inhumane environment facing our client group and corresponding ineffectiveness of the asylum system, and the equivalent likelihood of an increase in the number of clients with complex needs.

These risks are mitigated in part through close operational monitoring and application of the reserves policy.

Subsequent events and going concern

The pandemic has had a profound impact on all aspects of life, including the activities of the HBF group. By adapting to hybrid working, we ensured that over the course of 2021, our offices were only closed for seven weeks.

The trustees have put in place measures to mitigate the risks to the HBF group from the ongoing delays in decision-making by the Home Office and by the courts, which has pushed back the closure of cases and therefore income from the Legal Aid Authority for work done. The trustees have focused on fundraised income during this period, and kept an eye on the rising cost of living that has had an impact on remuneration, retention and recruitment. They have set up a remuneration and benefits task group to examine this challenge.

Having regard to these steps and the reserves held at the year-end by the Helen Bamber Foundation Group, the trustees consider it reasonable to expect that HBF has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the trustees continue to adopt the 'going concern' basis in preparing the accounts. The trustees and senior management have increased the regularity of financial forecasts in both the short and medium term. We continue to strengthen our financial processes and systems so we can monitor financial risk, and where required, take appropriate management action.

Remuneration policy

The objectives of HBF's remuneration policy are to:

- Reward staff appropriately and enable the recruitment and retention of high calibre personnel.
- Ensure the proper use of the charity's resources in accordance with its aims and within affordable limits, based on the financial circumstances of the charity.
- Be non-discriminatory, just and equitable in the evaluation of jobs and their remuneration by providing a stable framework for the remuneration of the team.
- Pay at a competitive level, taking account of external market rates — with an aim to set pay around the median level for comparable posts in the voluntary sector, subject to the charity's financial position.
- Operate within the law.

Remuneration is reviewed on an annual basis and agreed by the Board of Trustees. When setting pay levels, the charity gives consideration to external benchmark comparators, changes in the national average earnings index, affordability and other internal and external pressures, including recruitment and retention. The policy applies to all staff, including the charity's executive team. The total remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer and four directors, including employer's NI and employer's pension contributions, was £278,455.

Fundraising

HBF's fundraising team produces an annual Income Generation Strategy against which performance is regularly monitored by senior management and trustees. In 2021, HBF continued to adapt to the challenging fundraising environment due to the pandemic, and successfully raised £1,668,836 thanks to the generosity of our supporters.

HBF's fundraising approach reflects the principles published on the HBF's website www.helenbamber.org. The charity's fundraising programme is delivered using internal resources and in 2021 did not involve external professional fundraisers or commercial participants. HBF does not generate merchandise for fundraising purposes.

HBF is registered with the Fundraising Regulator. Registration represents a commitment to the highest standards of practice and ensures that all fundraising activity is open, legal and fair. As a registered participant, HBF commits to the Board's Codes of Fundraising Practice, which is the standard set for fundraisers in the UK. Registered participants also commit to abide by its Fundraising Promise, which is based on six key pledges that reflect the core values of respect, honesty, accountability and transparency. HBF is strongly committed to recognised sector standards and is actively working to protect vulnerable people and other members of the public from behaviour which:

- Is an unreasonable intrusion on a person's privacy.
- Is unreasonably persistent.
- Places undue pressure on a person to give money or other property.

HBF has received no complaints in regard to its fundraising activities in 2021.

Public benefit

In setting HBF's objectives and planning its activities, the Board of Trustees has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. In particular, the Board of Trustees considers how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set. The benefits that HBF brings to the public are:

- Relieving and assisting people, and protecting the health of people who are at risk by reason of their experience of torture, hostilities, genocides or other atrocities.
- Preventing sickness and protecting the health of people who are at risk from such experiences.
- Relieving poverty among those people.
- Educating people on all issues concerning gross violation of human rights, torture and atrocities and the effect on people who experience such suffering.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also directors of the HBF for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware.
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 December 2021 was seven (2020: eight). The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the charitable company's auditor during the year and has expressed its willingness to continue in that capacity.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 8th August 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Charlotte Seymour-Smith, Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Helen Bamber Foundation (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, the group and parent charitable company balance sheets, the consolidated statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2021 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the group financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on Helen Bamber Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the group financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the group financial statements does not cover the other information, and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the group financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the group financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- The information given in the trustees' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements
- The trustees' annual report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees (who are also the directors of the parent charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and the parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or the parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with those Acts.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are set out below.

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's and group's policies and procedures relating to:
- Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
- Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
- The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the group operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the group from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.

- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Joanna Pittman (Senior statutory auditor)

8 September 2022

Date

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor
 Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL
 Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Consolidated statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 December 2021

		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £
	Note						
Income from:							
Donations – legal protection	2	–	147,080	147,080	–	262,013	262,013
Donations – therapy and casework	2	–	142,113	142,113	–	283,526	283,526
Donations – community integration	2	–	94,912	94,912	–	59,906	59,906
Donations – counter trafficking	2	–	19,653	19,653	–	43,259	43,259
Donations – research, policy, dissemination	2	–	55,961	55,961	–	28,915	28,915
Donations – general	2	1,230,973	15,701	1,246,674	1,196,894	92,370	1,289,264
Charitable activities							
Fees from medical legal reports – Legal protection		85,190	–	85,190	81,364	–	81,364
Other legal services		255,799	–	255,799	–	–	–
Westminster ASP		–	61,306	61,306	–	30,653	30,653
Other income		61,307	–	61,307	62,027	15,158	77,185
Bank interest		81	–	81	1,136	–	1,136
Total income		1,633,350	536,726	2,170,076	1,341,421	815,800	2,157,221
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	3	175,678	–	175,678	254,273	–	254,273
Charitable activities							
Legal protection	3	659,069	201,746	860,815	189,079	272,495	461,574
Therapy and casework	3	436,712	102,984	539,696	227,083	343,073	570,156
Community integration	3	35,091	82,224	117,315	54,703	78,380	133,083
Counter trafficking	3	127,305	17,479	144,784	91,478	61,733	153,211
Research, policy and dissemination	3	183,388	55,453	238,841	201,433	47,389	248,822
Total expenditure		1,617,244	459,886	2,077,130	1,018,050	803,070	1,821,120
Net income for the year	4	16,106	76,840	92,946	323,371	12,730	336,101
Net income and movement in funds		16,106	76,840	92,946	323,371	12,730	336,101
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		1,173,654	17,730	1,191,384	850,283	5,000	855,283
Total funds carried forward		1,189,760	94,570	1,284,330	1,173,654	17,730	1,191,384

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 15a to the financial statements.

As at 31 December 2021

	Note	The group 2021 £	2020 £	The charity 2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	8	24,789	33,275	23,856	32,003
		24,789	33,275	23,856	32,003
Current assets:					
Debtors	11	247,557	110,267	336,067	125,031
Casework-in-progress		209,849	–	–	–
Cash at bank and in hand		1,028,766	1,373,480	772,269	1,183,530
		1,486,172	1,483,747	1,108,336	1,308,561
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(226,631)	(325,638)	(142,949)	(217,087)
		1,259,541	1,158,109	965,387	1,091,474
Net current assets		1,259,541	1,158,109	965,387	1,091,474
Total Net Assets		1,284,330	1,191,384	989,243	1,123,477
Funds:	15a				
Restricted income funds		94,570	17,730	76,429	17,730
Unrestricted income funds:					
Designated fixed asset fund		24,789	33,275	23,856	33,275
Designated Casework-in-Progress		209,849	–	–	–
Designated– New Premise Fund		250,000	–	–	–
General funds		705,122	1,140,379	888,958	1,072,472
Total unrestricted funds		1,189,760	1,173,654	912,814	1,105,747
Total funds		1,284,330	1,191,384	989,243	1,123,477

Approved by the trustees on 8 August 2022 and signed on their behalf by

John Scampion
Treasurer

Consolidated statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		92,946		336,101	
Depreciation charges		18,309		16,547	
(Increase) / decrease in debtors		(137,291)		109,408	
Increase in casework-in-progress		(209,849)		–	
(Decrease) / increase in creditors		(99,006)		181,083	
Net cash provided by operating activities		(334,891)		643,139	
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Purchase of fixed assets		(9,823)		(9,602)	
Net cash used in investing activities		(9,823)		(9,602)	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(344,714)		633,537	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,373,480		739,943	
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year a		1,028,766		1,373,480	
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents and of net debt					
	At 1 January 2021 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	At 31 December 2021 £	
Cash at bank and in hand	1,373,480	(344,714)	–	1,028,766	
Total cash and cash equivalents	1,373,480	(344,714)	–	1,028,766	

1 Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

Helen Bamber Foundation is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom.

The registered office address is Bruges Place, 15–20 Baynes Street London NW1 0TF.

b) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) – (Charities SORP FRS 102), The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charity and its subsidiary Asylum Aid on a line by line basis. Transactions and balances between the charity and its subsidiary have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements. Balances between the two entities are disclosed in the notes of the charity's balance sheet. A separate statement of financial activities, or income and expenditure account, for the charity itself is not presented because the charity has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

In applying the financial reporting framework, the trustees have made a number of subjective judgements, for example in respect of significant accounting estimates. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The nature of the estimation means the actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. Any significant estimates and judgements affecting these financial statements are detailed within the relevant accounting policy below.

Comparatives are not directly comparable due to acquiring Asylum Aid in August 2020.

c) Reporting period

The financial statements cover the year to 31 December 2021.

d) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

e) Going concern

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

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

f) Recognition of income

Recognition of income takes place in accordance with applicable accounting policies and results are presented in accordance with the SORP. All incoming resources are included in the Statement of financial activities when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably. Grants and donations are recorded in the period in which they are received or the charity is entitled to the income.

Donations receivable for the general purposes of the charity are credited to Unrestricted funds and donations tied to a particular purpose are credited to Restricted funds.

Revenue grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable, whichever is earlier. Where unconditional entitlement to grants receivable is dependent on fulfilment of conditions within the charity's control, the incoming resources are recognised when there is sufficient evidence that conditions will be met. Where there is uncertainty as to whether the charity can meet such conditions, the incoming resource is deferred. When funding received is designated by the donor to be used in a specific future period, income is deferred.

Income from medico legal reports is recognised when the report has been completed and submitted to the customer and an invoice has been raised.

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

Work in Progress is valued at the average hourly rate paid by the Legal Aid Agency. Provision is made where necessary for irrecoverable amount of work in progress.

All other income, such as training fees, is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable probability. Legacies are included when there is reasonable probability of receipt, amount and timing.

Where income is received in advance of its recognition, it is deferred and included in creditors. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued and included in debtors.

g) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

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

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

h) Recognition of expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis in the period to which the cost relates and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered. Where costs cannot be directly attributable to particular activities, they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources. Overheads, salaries and governance costs are allocated between the activity headings on the basis of attributable employment cost, and an element of judgement is involved. Costs of raising funds are those costs, including fundraising expenditures, incurred by the charity to obtain funds. Support costs are those costs incurred which are not directly an output of the charitable activity. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with enabling the charity to comply with external regulation, constitutional and statutory requirements and in providing support to the Trustees in the discharge of their statutory duties.

i) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £250. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use. Major components are treated as a separate asset where they have significantly different patterns of consumption of economic benefits and are depreciated separately over its useful life.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Only individual assets costing £250 or more and not forming part of a larger project are capitalised. This level is periodically reviewed, along with the need for a formal impairment review.

Provision is made for depreciation of fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less the estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over 3 years and other fixed assets over 4 years.

1 Accounting policies (continued)**j) Cash at bank and in hand**

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

k) Recognition of liabilities and constructive liabilities

Liabilities, including constructive obligations, are recognised at the point at which the charity is deemed to have entered into a binding commitment. Provisions are recognised when there is a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the obligation.

l) Leases

Rental costs under operating leases are charged to expenditure as incurred. Lease incentives received by the charity are released on a straight line basis to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period until the first break clause or, in the case of leases already existing, until the rent review.

m) Pensions

The charity contributes to a stakeholder pension scheme on behalf of its staff, and the cost is recognised as incurred.

n) Taxation status

As a charity, Helen Bamber Foundation is exempt from taxation of income and gains falling within Section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent these are applied charitably. No tax charge has arisen in the year.

o) Funds

The charity's financial statements are a consolidation of individual funds. These divide into two distinct categories: unrestricted and restricted.

Unrestricted funds

The use of these funds has not been restricted to a particular purpose by the donor. The unrestricted funds comprise the General fund and Designated funds.

General fund

The General fund is the working fund of the charity. It is not tied or designated as are the other funds for use for a particular or defined purpose. The General fund has to provide for the net deficit of any activities that have inadequate income of their own and for the general administration of the charity. It also provides working capital for operations and helps to provide resources to ensure that the charity is able to continue with its obligations in the event of a shortfall in income or unexpected upturn in expenditure. The current target level for the unrestricted general fund is between three and six months of the higher of projected gross income or gross expenditure for the next financial year.

Designated funds

Designated funds are those which have been allocated by the charity for particular purposes. The Fixed Asset reserve represents the net book value of the investment by the General fund in fixed assets.

Restricted funds

These are income funds tied to particular purposes. They include gifts made to the charity to be used in accordance with the wishes of the donors. Until funds are expended, they are placed on deposit or held in cash.

p) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due, after provision for doubtful debts.

2 Income from donations

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £
Donations – trusts and foundations	855,576	403,420	1,258,996	683,904	705,981	1,389,885
Donations – individuals	221,106	–	221,106	313,085	34,858	347,943
Donations – corporate	116,733	72,000	188,733	98,926	29,149	128,075
Other	37,557	–	37,557	100,978	–	100,978
	<u>1,230,973</u>	<u>475,420</u>	<u>1,706,393</u>	<u>1,196,893</u>	<u>769,988</u>	<u>1,966,881</u>

The "other" donations comprise income from community fundraising and a fundraising campaign comprising one main event in 2021.

2 Income from donations (continued)

Restricted and unrestricted donations from trusts and foundations of £2,000 or greater in 2021 were as follows:-

	2021			2020		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
The A. B. Charitable Trust	50,000	-	50,000	50,000	-	50,000
Access for Justice Foundation	-	31,000	31,000	-	74,300	74,300
Allen & Overy Foundation	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Anti-Slavery International	-	2,026	2,026	-	2,000	2,000
Barrow Cadbury Trust	-	-	-	-	99,750	99,750
The Blyth Watson Charitable Trust	-	-	-	2,000	-	2,000
The Bryan Guinness Charitable Trust	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
City Bridge Trust	-	-	-	-	37,666	37,666
Comic Relief	-	123,601	123,601	-	95,556	95,556
Eva Reckitt Trust Fund	-	2,500	2,500	-	2,500	2,500
The Emmanuel Kaye Foundation	-	-	-	30,000	-	30,000
The Evan Cornish Foundation	-	12,000	12,000	-	12,000	12,000
ORR Mackintosh Foundation	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	25,000	-	25,000	-	20,000	20,000
Robert Luff Foundation	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	-
Susan Gibson	2,000	-	2,000	-	-	-
The Edward Gostling Foundation	-	-	-	-	3,000	3,000
The Harkness Family Foundation	-	-	-	10,000	-	10,000
The Henry Smith Charity	-	12,500	12,500	-	50,000	50,000
ILPA	-	-	-	-	5,259	5,259
The Leigh Trust	-	4,000	4,000	5,000	4,000	9,000
The London Community Foundation	-	-	-	-	5,000	5,000
The Marwyn Trust	16,728	-	16,728	7,434	-	7,434
The McCartney Foundation	50,000	-	50,000	50,000	-	50,000
Moynitrust	5,000	-	5,000	5,000	-	5,000
The National Lottery Community Fund	91,667	-	91,667	-	100,000	100,000
Oak Foundation	120,000	-	120,000	150,000	-	150,000
McPhail Trust	-	40,000	40,000	-	-	-
Samworth Foundation	80,000	83,759	163,759	-	-	-
Pilkington Charities Fund	3,000	-	3,000	-	-	-
Postcode Equality Trust	125,000	-	125,000	250,000	100,000	350,000
Schroder Charity Trust	-	-	-	-	5,000	5,000
The Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Trust	-	-	-	-	2,000	2,000
The Souter Charitable Trust	10,000	-	10,000	3,000	-	3,000
British Humane Association	4,000	-	4,000	-	-	-
Trust for London	50,000	20,000	70,000	10,000	10,000	20,000
Transport for London	-	30,000	30,000	-	-	-
The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	-	10,590	10,590	-	11,625	11,625
Wellcome Community Support Fund	-	10,000	10,000	-	5,000	5,000
William Brake Charitable Trust	-	2,000	2,000	-	7,000	7,000
The Wright Family Foundation	-	-	-	10,000	-	10,000
29th May 1961 Charitable Trust	-	3,000	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
Britford Bridge	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	-
Bloomberg	110,000	-	110,000	-	-	-
Adfal Trust Culver House Farm	4,000	-	4,000	-	-	-
Harkness Family	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-
Volant Charitable Trust	50,000	-	50,000	-	-	-
London Legal Support	20,000	-	20,000	-	-	-
Other trusts - Trusts under £2,000	19,181	6,444	25,625	2,470	6,425	8,895
Anonymous	-	-	-	94,000	34,900	128,900
Total	855,576	403,420	1,258,996	683,904	705,981	1,389,885

3a Analysis of expenditure (current year)

	Cost of raising funds £	Charitable activities					Support and Governance costs £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
		Legal protection £	Therapy and casework £	Community Integration £	Counter Trafficking £	Research, policy and dissemination £			
Staff costs (Note 5)	125,614	621,908	342,974	81,210	106,992	158,725	86,022	1,523,445	1,195,997
Legal protection	-	42,755	-	-	-	-	-	42,755	75,150
Therapy and casework	-	-	88,547	-	-	-	-	88,547	116,661
Community Integration and creative arts programme	-	-	-	10,491	-	-	-	10,491	19,186
Counter Trafficking	-	-	-	-	4,046	-	-	4,046	7,087
Education, policy and research	-	-	-	-	-	30,054	-	30,054	27,559
Fundraising costs	10,445	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,445	32,246
Premises costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	190,007	190,007	187,174
Audit	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,265	15,265	12,100
Trustee expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	253	253	-
Office and supplies costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	103,244	103,244	83,491
Irrecoverable VAT	-	-	-	-	-	-	49,198	49,198	63,864
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,970	17,970	16,547
Movement on doubtful debt provision	-	-	-	-	-	-	(8,591)	(8,591)	(15,942)
	136,059	664,663	431,521	91,701	111,038	188,779	453,369	2,077,130	1,821,120
Support and Governance costs allocation	39,619	196,152	108,175	25,614	33,746	50,062	(453,369)	-	-
Total expenditure 2021	175,678	860,815	539,696	117,315	144,784	238,841	-	2,077,130	
Total expenditure 2020	254,273	461,574	570,156	133,083	153,211	248,822	-		1,821,120

Governance costs are included above under audit fees and trustees' expenses.

3b Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Cost of raising funds £	Charitable activities					Support and Governance costs £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
		Legal protection £	Therapy and casework £	Community Integration £	Counter Trafficking £	Research, policy and dissemination £			
Staff costs (Note 5)	161,049	280,295	328,946	82,616	105,992	160,495	76,604	1,195,997	1,018,865
Legal protection	–	75,150	–	–	–	–	–	75,150	51,136
Therapy and casework	–	–	116,661	–	–	–	–	116,661	137,160
Community Integration and creative arts programme	–	–	–	19,186	–	–	–	19,186	68,154
Counter Trafficking	–	–	–	–	7,087	–	–	7,087	11,386
Education, policy and research	–	–	–	–	–	27,559	–	27,559	50,698
Fundraising costs	32,246	–	–	–	–	–	–	32,246	36,385
Premises costs	–	–	–	–	–	–	187,174	187,174	189,479
Audit	–	–	–	–	–	–	12,100	12,100	8,400
Trustee expenses	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	743
Office and supplies costs	–	–	–	–	–	–	83,491	83,491	68,129
Irrecoverable VAT	–	–	–	–	–	–	63,864	63,864	64,392
Depreciation	–	–	–	–	–	–	16,547	16,547	12,754
Movement on doubtful debt provision	–	–	–	–	–	–	(15,942)	(15,942)	4,662
	193,295	355,445	445,607	101,802	113,079	188,054	423,838	1,821,120	1,722,343
Support and Governance costs allocation	60,978	106,129	124,549	31,281	40,132	60,768	(423,838)	–	–
Total expenditure 2020	254,273	461,574	570,156	133,083	153,211	248,822	–	1,821,120	
Total expenditure 2019	241,972	268,630	577,344	192,781	154,845	286,771	–		1,722,343

Governance costs are included above under audit fees and trustees' expenses.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

4 Net income for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation	18,309	16,547
Operating lease rentals:		
Property	141,919	145,049
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Current year audit	9,975	9,500
Independent examination of Asylum Aid	2,725	2,600
	<u>152,928</u>	<u>173,706</u>

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

Staff costs were as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Salaries and wages	1,327,067	1,027,058
Social security costs	119,924	80,742
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	49,130	36,396
Recruitment costs	9,918	8,001
Interim staffing costs	10,062	36,624
Redundancy costs (paid as at 31.12.21)	7,344	7,176
	<u>1,523,445</u>	<u>1,195,997</u>

One employee earned between £60,000 and £70,000 during the year (2020: one).

The total employee benefits, (including pension contributions and employer's national insurance) of the senior management executive were £278,455 (2020: £185,939).

The Trustees were not paid or in receipt of any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2020: £nil). No Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2020: £nil).

The Trustees were not paid or in receipt of any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2020: £nil). No Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2020: £nil).

£218 Trustee expenses were incurred by the charity in the year and relate to online training for one new Trustee (2020: nil).

6 Staff numbers

The average number of employees based on the average headcount employed during the year was as follows:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Fundraising	4.0	4.0
Charitable activity	32.0	25.5
Support	5.0	5.0
Governance	2.0	2.0
	<u>43.0</u>	<u>36.5</u>

7 Related party transactions

There were management charges of £77,451 relating to HBF staff costs recharged to AA in 2021 (2020: £26,430).

There were no donations from related parties which were outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties. The total amount of donations received in 2021 from Trustees or parties related to them was £55,000 (2020: £10,144).

8 Tangible fixed assets

The group

	Leasehold Improvement £	Fixtures and fittings £	ICT and medical equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At the start of the year	113,376	34,163	56,969	204,508
Additions in year	–	–	9,823	9,823
Disposals in year	–	–	–	–
At the end of the year	113,376	34,163	66,792	214,331
Depreciation				
At the start of the year	108,904	25,289	37,040	171,233
Charge for the year	2,922	4,909	10,479	18,309
Eliminated on disposal	–	–	–	–
At the end of the year	111,826	30,198	47,519	189,542
Net book value				
At the end of the year	1,550	3,965	19,274	24,789
At the start of the year	4,472	8,874	19,929	33,275

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

The charity

	Leasehold Improvement £	Fixtures and fittings £	ICT and medical equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At the start of the year	113,376	34,163	55,612	203,151
Additions in year	–	–	9,823	9,823
Disposals in year	–	–	–	–
At the end of the year	113,376	34,163	65,435	212,974
Depreciation				
At the start of the year	108,904	25,289	36,955	171,148
Charge for the year	2,922	4,909	10,139	17,970
Eliminated on disposal	–	–	–	–
At the end of the year	111,826	30,198	47,094	189,118
Net book value				
At the end of the year	1,550	3,965	18,341	23,856
At the start of the year	4,472	8,874	18,657	32,003

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

9 Subsidiary undertaking

The charity controls the subsidiary, Asylum Aid, a company registered in England. The company number is 2513874 and charity number is 328729. The registered office address is that of the parent company. It is a subsidiary of the Helen Bamber Foundation (parent company) as the parent company board have majority control of Asylum Aid.

The subsidiary is used for the primary purpose of providing legal representation and access to justice for refugees and those seeking asylum. All activities have been consolidated on a line by line basis in the statement of financial activities.

A summary of the results of the subsidiary is shown below:

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2021 £	2020 £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	123,000	267,401	390,401	198,652
Charitable Activities	-	45,950	45,950	6,720
Other trading activities	-	61,306	61,306	30,653
Legal income	-	209,849	209,849	-
Total Income	123,000	584,506	707,506	236,025
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	-	21,859	21,859	17,783
Charitable Activities	104,859	353,613	458,472	150,335
Total Expenditure	104,859	375,472	480,331	168,118
Net income for the year	18,141	209,034	227,175	67,907
Total funds brought forward	-	-	-	-
Total Funds carried forward	18,141	209,034	227,175	67,907

10 Parent charity

The parent charity's gross income and the results for the year are disclosed as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Gross income	1,462,570	1,891,070
Result for the year	(134,229)	268,194

11 Debtors

	The group 2021 £	2020 £	The charity 2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	47,861	29,163	47,816	29,163
Amounts due from group undertakings	-	-	116,321	30,090
Prepayments & other debtors	13,798	44,445	11,359	44,445
Accrued income	185,898	36,659	160,571	21,333
	247,557	110,267	336,067	125,031

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	The group		The charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	80,184	23,141	70,574	11,865
Taxation and social security	34,339	27,534	26,025	21,080
Accruals	48,146	79,556	37,916	77,003
Deferred income (note 13)	–	138,139	–	107,139
Other creditors	63,962	57,268	8,435	–
	226,631	325,638	142,949	217,087

13 Deferred income

Deferred income relates to three restricted donations. Income is deferred as it relates to future periods

	The group		The charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Balance at the beginning of the year	138,139	61,666	107,139	61,666
Amount released to income in the year	(138,139)	(61,666)	(107,139)	(61,666)
Amount deferred in the year	–	138,139	–	107,139
Balance at the end of the year	–	138,139	–	107,139

14a Analysis of group net assets between funds (current year)

	General unrestricted £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	–	24,789	–	24,789
Net current assets	955,122	209,849	94,570	1,259,541
Net assets at the end of the year	955,122	234,638	94,570	1,284,330

14b Analysis of group net assets between funds (prior year)

	General unrestricted £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	–	33,275	–	33,275
Net current assets	1,140,379	–	17,730	1,158,109
Net assets at the end of the year	1,140,379	33,275	17,730	1,191,384

15a Movements in funds (current year)

	At 1 January 2021 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2021 £
Restricted funds:					
Legal protection	7,992	147,080	(133,552)	–	21,520
Therapy and casework	4,738	142,113	(99,467)	–	47,384
Community integration	–	94,912	(79,417)	–	15,495
Research, policy and dissemination	5,000	55,961	(53,561)	–	7,400
Counter Trafficking	–	19,653	(16,882)	–	2,771
Westminster ASP	–	61,306	(61,306)	–	–
Other	–	15,701	(15,701)	–	–
Total restricted funds	17,730	536,726	(459,886)	–	94,570
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated fixed asset fund	33,275	–	(17,970)	9,484	24,789
Designated Casework-in-Progress	–	209,849	–	–	209,849
Designated– New Premise Fund	–	–	–	250,000	250,000
Total designated funds	33,275	209,849	(17,970)	259,484	484,638
General funds	1,140,379	1,423,501	(1,599,274)	(259,484)	705,122
Total unrestricted funds	1,173,654	1,633,350	(1,617,244)	–	1,189,760
Total funds	1,191,384	2,170,076	(2,077,130)	–	1,284,330

The narrative to explain the purpose of each fund is given at the foot of the note below.

15b Movements in funds (prior year)

	At 1 January 2020	Income & gains	Expenditure & losses	Transfers	At 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:					
Legal protection	–	262,013	(254,021)	–	7,992
Therapy and casework	5,000	283,526	(278,788)	–	9,738
Community integration	–	59,906	(59,906)	–	–
Research, policy and dissemination	–	28,915	(28,915)	–	–
Counter Trafficking	–	43,259	(43,259)	–	–
Westminster ASP	–	30,653	(30,653)	–	–
Other income	–	15,158	(15,158)	–	–
General	–	92,370	(92,370)	–	–
Total restricted funds	5,000	815,800	(803,070)	–	17,730
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated fixed asset fund	40,220	–	(16,547)	9,602	33,275
Strategic Investment Fund	–	–	–	–	–
Total designated funds	40,220	–	(16,547)	9,602	33,275
General funds	810,063	1,341,421	(1,001,503)	(9,602)	1,140,379
Total unrestricted funds	850,283	1,341,421	(1,018,050)	–	1,173,654
Total funds	855,283	2,157,221	(1,821,120)	–	1,191,384

Purposes of restricted funds**Legal protection**

The restricted funds for protection work are to fund legal protection and advocacy support work; providing refugee and asylum seeking clients with a fair chance at seeking justice against the perpetrators of the interpersonal violence they experienced, international protection from the government and appropriate welfare support and housing provision. This includes legal staff salaries, client travel and interpreter costs and any other associated costs of administering and providing legal protection and advocacy support to clients.

Therapy and casework

The restricted funds for therapy and casework are to fund our therapeutic care for survivors of gross human rights violations, helping individuals and families to overcome the psychological impact of interpersonal violence and achieve sustained recovery from acute trauma symptoms, Complex Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and other resultant mental health issues. This includes clinical staff salaries, client travel and interpreter costs and associated costs of administering referrals for our services and providing tailored support and counselling for clients.

Community integration

The restricted funds for community integration are to assist clients to become valued members of society and combine work from different areas. Mind and body work are to fund therapies which use the mutual influence of body on mind, and mind on body to facilitate healing and recovery from trauma. The programme includes acupuncture, cranio-sacral therapy, hakomi and internal family systems, movement, pilates, yoga (including pre- and post-natal), massage, breathing training and osteopathy. The restricted funds are for clinical staff salaries, equipment, volunteer costs and client travel.

The restricted funds for social wellbeing work are to fund the Creative arts programme, which includes language and skills classes and artistic and social groups for clients of the Foundation, to break isolation and aid recovery. This includes the costs of materials, client travel, volunteer expenses and the salary of the coordinating staff member.

Purposes of restricted funds (continued)

Research, policy and dissemination

These restricted funds are to fund work on research, policy and dissemination.

Counter Trafficking

The restricted funds for counter trafficking are to enable the foundation to fund a model of integrated care for victims of human trafficking. This includes clinical staff salaries, client travel and interpreter costs and associated costs of administering referrals for our services and providing tailored support and counselling for clients.

Westminster ASP

Westminster Advice Services Project (WASP) is a consortium led by Westminster Citizens Advice, which Asylum Aid has been a member of since 2016. It is a consortium put together by NGOs based in Westminster and funded by Westminster council on a 3–5 year rolling contract, to provide advice and support services on welfare legal matters. Asylum Aid's USP input to this project is a multi-language volunteer advisor system, in which we train and supervise local people to interpret for us when providing advice to Westminster residence for whom English is a second language. The yearly funding covers the cost of two specialist advisors (part time), and rental costs for Derry House from where we provide outreach and drop in advice services as well as associated costs of administering our services.

Other income

We continued our partnership with Young Roots , an organisation that supports hard to reach separated asylum seeking children and young people, who often face greater barriers in accessing mental health and other support. The funds (£9,266) were for clinical staff time who provided assessments, stabilisation interventions and also treatment.

We formed a new partnership with Women for Refugee Women to offer clinical support to the women in their network. The funds (£5,892) were for clinical staff time who provided clinical assessments that facilitated access to mental health services, as well as delivering therapeutic interventions designed to help women to stabilise and manage their mental health.

Purposes of designated funds

Fixed assets fund

A designated fund has been established to represent the net book value of the charity's fixed assets.

Casework in progress fund

Value of work in progress relating to legal cases as year-end as this is a relatively illiquid asset.

New Premise fund

A designated fund to meet planned expenditure on securing new premises over 2022 and 2023.

16 Operating lease commitments payable as a lessee

The group's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods:

	Property 2021 £	2020 £
Less than one year	185,716	185,716
Two to five years	270,183	412,102
	<u>455,899</u>	<u>597,818</u>



Accounts

HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION GROUP ANNUAL REPORT

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2020

CHARITY NUMBER: 1149652
COMPANY NUMBER: 08186281



ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

FOUNDER

Helen Bamber OBE (1925 - 2014)

PRESIDENT

Emma Thompson DBE

TRUSTEES

Charlotte Seymour-Smith - Chair

John Scampion - Treasurer

Sir Nicolas Bratza

Rebecca Hirst

Nina Kowalska

Nancy McCartney (joined September 2020)

Samantha Peter

Caroline Moorehead OBE (resigned August 2020)

Patricia Pank (resigned July 2020)

Hugh Richardson – Treasurer (resigned August 2020)

Professor Ian Watt

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY GROUP

Sir Nicolas Bratza

Shu Shin Luh

Parosha Chandran

MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVES

Gareth Holmes – Fundraising and Communications Director

Professor Cornelius Katona – Medical & Research Director

Kerry Smith – Chief Executive Officer

CHARITY NUMBER 1149652

COMPANY NUMBER 08186281

REGISTERED OFFICE AND OPERATIONAL ADDRESS

Bruges Place, 15-20 Baynes Street

London

NW1 0TF

AUDITOR

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ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 December 2020

INTRODUCTION TO THE HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION GROUP

WHO WE ARE

The Helen Bamber Foundation (HBF) is a pioneering human rights charity supporting refugees and asylum seekers who are the survivors of extreme human cruelty. The people we work with have been subjected to many atrocities, including state-sponsored torture, human trafficking, religious and political persecution, forced labour, sexual exploitation, and gender-based and 'honour-based' violence.

The bravery and resilience of our clients is an inspiration to all the team at HBF. In the words of our founder:

We find our reward in the eyes of those to whom we owe nothing.

Helen Bamber, OBE (1925-2014)

HBF exists to ensure that **all** survivors of trafficking and torture are free and healthy (both physically and mentally), are safe, are protected from re-trafficking, exploitation and abuse, as well as detention and poverty, and have the ability and agency to integrate in and contribute to the communities around them. HBF also uses its unique expertise to drive change and improve practice and policy for all survivors.

In 2020 HBF formed the Helen Bamber Foundation Group (the Group), welcoming Asylum Aid, another human rights charity focused on survivors, which was in danger of not being able to continue its work. Not only did this mean that 100 survivors were able to keep their expert legal help during the pandemic, but also that by working together HBF and Asylum Aid could jointly drive greater policy and practice change, and can continue to do this in the future.

Asylum Aid is a committed, professional and collaborative charity dedicated to protecting people from persecution by providing legal representation and access to justice for refugees and those seeking asylum. Asylum Aid concentrates on complex cases of people who would struggle to get appropriate legal representation elsewhere, focusing on survivors of trafficking and torture, stateless persons and separated children. It is a key change maker, whose loss would have been keenly felt across the sector. The team also provides welfare advice to migrants and other vulnerable members of the community in Westminster, London.

Together we are innovative, ambitious and compassionate.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

It is hard to put 2020 into words. We began the year optimistic about our ability to grow and create new support pathways for our clients. Then along with the rest of the world we were forced to modify our plans rapidly and one of the key questions became how we could make sure that our services to survivors didn't stop.

It was clear that the survivors of trafficking and torture we work with were at risk of a significant deterioration in their mental and physical health and level of protection during the Covid-19 pandemic due to the challenges they face around housing, mental health, digital access and language barriers, to name but a few. In our experience, crisis is also a time when the risk of abuse, exploitation and re-trafficking increases exponentially.

Despite these challenges the generosity, determination and community spirit that our clients, supporters and team of staff and volunteers demonstrated during this year has been something that I will never forget. From one of our clients who told their therapist *"I know that that I can't lose it [my mind], I need to think of others and help out"*, to our team who immediately changed the way they worked to support isolated and vulnerable clients on a weekly basis. We all pulled together to maintain our vital existing services and add new ones during the course of the year, including our Welfare Calls Initiative which meant our volunteers spoke with survivors and made almost 1500 phone calls to clients, providing direct, human support in the worst of times. Our supporters also changed the way they worked, which allowed us to continue to provide much needed help during the Covid-19 pandemic, but also ensure that other critical services could be saved — such as the legal representation provided by Asylum Aid to survivors.

I have never been as proud of the Helen Bamber and Asylum Aid community as I am right now.

It is clear that our work and presence has never been more needed. The punitive and unworkable proposals made by this government in the Nationality and Borders Bill demonstrate its complete lack of understanding of what survivors have experienced and a heartless disregard for their need for help and support, while increasing the risks that survivors face — including further abuse, exploitation and re-trafficking.

We have a responsibility to ensure that more survivors of trafficking and torture are given the strength to fly. Therefore together with survivors, and through ambitious partnerships, our new strategy will focus on driving forward the changes that are needed in the UK and internationally to address survivors' exposure to risk of re-trafficking exploitation and abuse. I am hugely excited about the transformation we can make for survivors in the UK and globally by joining together.

Kerry Smith, CEO Helen Bamber Foundation Group

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

HBF's staff & volunteers: a community effort

We can only provide the level of services required by our clients thanks to the dedication, professionalism and vision of our staff and volunteers. During 2020, on an average head counter basis, 36.5 members of the Helen Bamber Foundation Group team handled the daily business of the charity, providing services directly to — and on behalf of — its clients. A further seven members of the Asylum Aid team joined the group in August 2020, growing to 10 by the end of December 2020. Combined, we had a maximum of nine members of the team on furlough at any one time. We did not stop our services during the Covid-19 pandemic but delivered them remotely. We also enabled face-to-face appointments for the most vulnerable clients when not in lockdown. The staff were supported by 150 volunteers, among them doctors, therapists, barristers, solicitors, administrators, artists, musicians and other specialists, all of whom supported our clients remotely and retrained to provide much-needed support. We offer our heartfelt thanks to all our volunteers, without whom we would not be able to give the quality or variety of support to our clients.

Management and governance

HBF is an independent charity and is a company limited by guarantee and was incorporated on 21st August 2012. We are developing a group structure to maximise impact for survivors of trafficking and torture by aligning efforts with other charities that provide much needed support. Asylum Aid became the first member of our Helen Bamber Foundation Group (the Group) during the pandemic, due to its own financial difficulties. We will be supporting Asylum Aid as a charity to sustainably grow its impact and increase its reach. The Asylum Aid Board continues to have oversight, but with alignment and efficiency created through shared board members, committees and back-office support, including finance, HR, volunteer management, facilities and fundraising. The intention is to continue this incubation over the next strategy period. The day-to-day management of the Group is by the Managing Executives continued with the introduction of a Management Group made up of the Chief Executive, Directors and Heads of Teams. A Finance and Fundraising Committee bringing together trustees and management team members meets at least quarterly to provide financial and fundraising governance and oversight of both the HBF and Asylum Aid.

Under the HBF Chair, Charlotte Seymour-Smith, and the interim Asylum Aid Chair, Sir Nicolas Bratza (also a trustee of the Helen Bamber Foundation), the HBF trustees, with the help of the additional Asylum Aid trustees, provided strong strategic oversight and governance of the Group throughout 2020. John Scampion is the Treasurer of both HBF and Asylum Aid. New trustees to both organisations are recruited externally, with their appointment being approved by the Board of Trustees. A tailored induction follows, ensuring that each new trustee has been briefed as required on the Group's governance structure and decision-making processes, their obligations under charity law, and the activities of HBF and Asylum Aid, and their financial performance. Trustee meetings are held every quarter and sequentially.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

As we entered the second year of our three year strategy the world altered completely. The uncertainty created by the pandemic will continue beyond 2020. What is clear is that the environment we operate in, as a human rights charity, has permanently changed, and that this change requires new ways to ensure that survivors of trafficking and torture have power, freedom and safety.

During the pandemic the needs of the survivors we work with increased and evolved in ways that demanded a rapid adaption of our services, whilst simultaneously our working practices were forced to adapt to shifting rules and expectations for offering services in a public space, and government policy introducing new challenges for our clients and our work. We met these challenges head on and as the Chair of the Board of Trustees, I couldn't be prouder of the fact that during this most difficult of years we kept our services going and **even increased the support to our clients at a time they needed it the most**. Further, by rescuing Asylum Aid and ensuring it was able to continue to deliver vital legal protection services to survivors, we extended the support services the Group could offer.

This year we demonstrated agility and determination to protect survivors during a time of crisis, and strengthend our collaboration with others to deliver much needed change for more survivors through our policy and advocacy work. This includes our successful work on ending detention in the barracks, on preventing trafficking survivors from being evicted, and ensuring trafficking survivors are properly identified.

This year more than any other we have relied on all of those who are a part of the HBF, and now Asylum Aid, families. From our clients who supported each other and others, the volunteers who responded to our call for help and supporters who rallied round, everyone at HBF and Asylum Aid has gone above and beyond to ensure that as many survivors as possible were kept safe and could continue to look to the future. It has been an inspiring time to be a part of this team, and I know that the work of the Group will only continue to grow from strength to strength.

Charlotte Seymour-Smith, Chair Helen Bamber Foundation

HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION GROUP'S

VISION, MISSION & THEORY OF CHANGE

We believe our society will be judged by how we care for those to whom we owe nothing. We are human rights organisations that focus on ensuring that survivors of extreme human rights abuses have everything they need to make a sustained recovery. We know that dignity restored is strength regained.

VISION

All survivors of torture, trafficking and extreme human cruelty have safety, freedom and power.

MISSION

TO SUPPORT

Our Model of Integrated Care will directly or indirectly help support survivors of torture, trafficking and extreme human cruelty across the UK and beyond. We will also protect survivors from persecution.

TO ADVOCATE

As human rights advocates — we are uniquely placed as a result of our expertise, research and influence — we will bear witness to the suffering of survivors and fight for their rights.

TO COLLABORATE

We will collaborate with others to find solutions to the challenges facing all survivors and support the implementation of best practice to improve outcomes. We will be a valuable partner for those seeking to influence UK, European and Global policy.

THEORY OF CHANGE



HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION'S ACTIVITIES

Who do we work with — complex cases

As a result of their experiences, HBF Group clients have multiple and complex needs, and have often been let down by the system since their arrival in the UK. During 2020 we supported **over one thousand survivors of trafficking and torture** and over **three hundred vulnerable families** with welfare advice, over 70% of whom had backgrounds of migration or asylum.

As well as acute psychological health conditions, severe physical injuries and medical conditions, survivors' suffering is compounded, and their recovery hindered, by the fear of persecution if returned to their country of origin. Additionally the vast majority of our clients experience periods of destitution and homelessness, often multiple times during their journey through the UK's legal systems. HBF's experience is that many refugees and asylum seekers who are survivors of trafficking and torture have been unable to access the justice and representation they so desperately need. This is especially the case following cuts to legal aid in 2012, which resulted in the decimation of legal aid advice providers. The work of Asylum Aid, therefore, is critical to the recovery of survivors, and our ability as the Group to reach more survivors with support that is transformative.

Our clients are also often dangerously isolated and marginalised. Fear, emotional withdrawal and multiple barriers (such as language challenges, the inability to work, being unable to open a bank account), can stand in the way of survivors trying new experiences, developing vital life skills, enjoying practical and creative interests, and forming positive relationships. Furthermore, even though they suffer multiple physical injuries and illnesses (many as a direct result of their experiences), they often have only sporadic and ineffective engagement with statutory healthcare providers.

Finally, some of our clients have spent their entire childhoods in slavery, while others have been trafficked after fleeing from human rights violations. Sadly, due to the particular and prolonged impact of slavery, the survivors are extremely vulnerable to being re-targeted for further trafficking, exploitation and harm if they are left unsupported.

As a human rights and clinical organisation, HBF helps survivors to gain certainty in a challenging environment and to confront and overcome the multiple and complex traumas they have suffered, to improve their mental health, and to move forward with their lives.

Our clients and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic

The coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic was especially difficult for people:

- who live in cramped, crowded and unsanitary accommodation, which has higher risks of spreading infection

- who have little money to live on, and are unable to bulk buy to make savings or reduce trips to the shops
- who rely on foodbanks (as the pandemic and restrictions meant some were scared to go but also many foodbanks struggled, initially, to keep their doors open)
- who don't have the means to pay for phone contracts, don't have wifi or enough money to purchase data, and so face significant barriers to accessing essential services that moved online
- who struggle to access healthcare, through fear of charges and language barriers, making it difficult for them to advocate for themselves
- whose livelihoods are precarious and insecure
- who normally live a few short steps away from destitution and cannot risk a drop in pay or time off for illness
- who are at high risk of exploitation and abuse and from traffickers who will take every opportunity to exploit during desperate times

All of the above describe the circumstances of the survivors of trafficking and torture that HBF works with, who then additionally had to face the inhumanity of the immigration system that put them at further risk during a global pandemic.

Furthermore, the uncertainty and the risks we were all exposed to were particularly detrimental to survivors with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms such as panic, hyperarousal and general anxiety. This was compounded by the further delays that the Covid-19 pandemic has added to waiting times to receive decisions on claims for international protection, leaving survivors spending even longer than in previous years in fear and a state of limbo, with no right to work, living on very little money, and unsure of their futures.

During 2020 the whole HBF team, who were joined in August by the Asylum Aid team, energetically pulled together, finding creative new ways of providing our vital services to make sure that the survivors of trafficking and torture received the best care and help possible. Our volunteers surpassed themselves in continuing to support our work remotely and re-training to be able to deliver the support our clients needed.

Client's are at the centre of everything we do, we share their stories to honour them and bear witness:

Mohamed's Story

Mohammad is a survivor who experienced devastating losses whilst young and was then trafficked as a child by family members on his way to and for many years in the United Kingdom. When he was referred to HBF in 2018, he was fearful, nervous and unable to look anyone in the eye. Mohamed would wake screaming in the night, experienced disabling flashbacks, and was unable to tolerate staying in the therapy room for more than twenty minutes. He did not trust anyone aside from his support worker, and eventually, HBF. As part of the Model of Integrated Care Mohammad undertook a course of narrative exposure therapy. Mohamed was also provided with a medico-legal report, supported to obtain his status as a refugee, and assisted with welfare advice. He was also assisted by the counter-trafficking team to recognize safe and unsafe work practices and approaches. Mohamed attended community group to

support increased confidence and reduce isolation, and was assisted to find work. The many relationships with HBF professionals that Mohammad developed were very important for his recovery - whilst Mohammad always had a strong sense of fairness and justice, he had enduring difficulties believing that people would treat him well and that the world was a safe place. After these interventions, Mohammad's nightmares, dissociation, and intrusive imagery reduced considerably. He found work, and a partner. He came back to the Helen Bamber Foundation to request additional support for his sleep, which had worsened during the pandemic, and this was provided. Mohamed's motivation in approaching us was to maintain his well-being not just for himself, but for his family. His previous support worker who encountered him recently wrote to say:

Mohamed was happy, relaxed, laughing, talking about his future plans. None of these things seemed in reach when [he started therapy]

Delivering services - HBF Group Response #1

An Integrated Model Of Care

We recognise the complexity of each client's suffering and needs, which is why HBF offers specialist services within a Model of Integrated Care. This encompasses:

THERAPY
MEDICAL ADVICE
LEGAL PROTECTION
COUNTER-TRAFFICKING SUPPORT
HOUSING & WELFARE
COMMUNITY & INTEGRATION

We craft a bespoke care plan for every individual we work with, designed to enable positive recovery, protection and integration. We also provide support for as long as our services are needed. The goal of the Model of Integrated Care is to build a lasting and sustained recovery for each of our clients.

Protection from persecution

To increase the scope of our work and protect more people at a time when securing quality Legal Aid representation is increasingly difficult for survivors, bringing Asylum Aid into the HBF Group enables us to support a further focus on protection from persecution. Asylum Aid ensures that survivors are protected and can rebuild their lives in safety and with freedom by providing high quality legal representation for as long as it takes, to provide safety and freedom for survivors. In 2020, eight out of nine decisions were positive — a success rate of 89%.

Creating system and practice change - HBF's Response #2

An unique voice

We estimate the numbers of survivors who have experienced trafficking and torture as being over 1 million across Europe, with over 40,000 currently in the UK. Prior to the pandemic over 8,000 survivors arrived in the UK each year. All these survivors would benefit from HBF's Model of Integrated Care and Asylum Aid's representation. However not all of them can become our clients. Therefore it is our responsibility to use the expertise we have gained through the time spent and generosity of our clients to:

- Deliver **research** to provide evidence of best practice and what works
- Drive **system change** and the introduction of best practice
- **Publish and disseminate** our learnings, through briefings, and reports
- Support the sector and share learnings through **training** and supervision

PART ONE: DELIVERING SERVICES

From the very beginning of the pandemic, our team of expert doctors, psychologists, legal advisers and caseworkers acted to ensure that we could support our clients to weather the challenges and pre-empt risks where possible. First we made the decision to ensure that we would **support our clients, and their children, to get online as much as possible** by providing smartphones and tablets where needed (80 clients and children were supported) as well as data top-ups (100 clients were supported during the course of 2020). Second, **we quickly made changes** to the way we deliver our service to ensure that we could continue remotely by:

- Developing additional safeguarding measures for survivors of trafficking
- Increasing the level of phone contact with our clients through welfare check-in calls
- Continuing therapeutic support using video-calls and taking measures to provide a covid-safe in-person consultation space for those who needed it
- Moving our medico-legal report service to remote assessment to provide much needed expert evidence for survivors, including those at risk of removal and then providing a covid-safe in-person space for those who needed face-to-face assessment
- Delivering legal appointments using video-calls and the phone, as well as providing a covid-safe face-to-face appointment space for clients who needed it.
- Moving our community and group activities online

It is important to highlight the positive contribution of, and send out particular thanks to, all of the volunteers who rapidly changed the way they worked with us during the pandemic, including undertaking training to deliver welfare check-in calls to our clients

Helen Bamber Foundation Services

Therapy

The Therapy team supports survivors within an established framework of:

Stabilisation helping clients to manage their acute symptoms, such as flashbacks, low mood and anxiety; as well as associated circumstances such as destitution or legal adversity that impact on mental health.

Therapeutic interventions supporting clients to come to terms with the traumatic experiences they have suffered.

Integration helping clients belong in the community they have joined.

HBF's Therapy team offers survivors access to a range of evidence-based therapies for PTSD including:

- Trauma-focused Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (tfCBT)
- Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing (EMDR)
- Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET)

The pandemic threw many of the survivors we work with into crisis, and with many other public and charitable services having to shut their doors or reduce support (including key statutory services), our therapy provision and support was a vital lifeline. Many of our clients were unable to manage intensive evidence-based interventions remotely; instead we delivered interventions focused on symptom management and crisis management. Importantly, given the vulnerability of our clients, we **increased our provision of psychological interventions by 41%**, responding to increased need, providing essential support for 333 survivors with over 2,500 appointments. These included:

- 836 therapy appointments
- 979 psychoeducation/stabilisation appointments
- 240 assessment appointments

During the pandemic we adapted to a 'light touch' approach for formal measures and monitoring, significantly reducing the assessment load for our clients. Of a sample of 65 individuals for whom comparison data were available, therapy resulted in clinically important mental health improvements from both trauma-focussed interventions, and extended stabilisation interventions including work with anxiety and depression:

- 96% of the clients who had interventions sustained a clinical improvement
- Of those clients whose mental health did not improve, 82% hadn't had an intervention 12 months previously or before that.

Medical Advice

In 2020 the HBF Medical Advisory Service (MAS) continued to operate and provide medical advice to clients with a part-time Head of Doctors working alongside 2 volunteer GP doctors and a trainee psychiatrist. During the pandemic MAS reviewed all of our clients to check whether any should be shielding or taking extra precautions because of significant underlying vulnerabilities. MAS also helped our clients by providing advice and support for those requiring medical advice but unable to access their GP remotely. It also **disseminated information and education around Covid-19 to our clients, who are often excluded from mainstream public health efforts**. MAS helps clients to stabilise and improve their health by carrying out medical assessments, discussing and explaining health issues, giving health advice and liaising with external services, particularly the NHS, to support their needs.

- During the course of 2020, MAS provided 397 appointments for 169 clients.

Legal Protection

The Legal Protection team, works determinedly with other departments to ensure both that survivors are not being returned to situations where they would likely suffer repeated human rights violations and that they can access appropriate support. This year, due to the uncertainty regarding reporting, cessation of decisions during lockdown, and delayed legal proceedings, the team worked tirelessly to provide support and advice to our clients, who were often very distressed.

We provided 352 survivors with legal protection services in 2020; 54 clients received legal protection such as refugee status, humanitarian protection or discretionary leave. We continued to train expert clinicians

in remote methods of examination, and were able to remotely produce 76 expert medico-legal reports for 60 clients, to support their claims for asylum.

During the pandemic, HBF's Legal Protection team continued to support survivors in their protection cases by:

- Ensuring clients had good quality, reputable legal representation.
- Communicating with clients' solicitors regarding their needs, including providing evidence (in collaboration with other departments) regarding the impact of delays on mental health.
- Offering Immigration advice (from the Head of Legal and the Specialist Counter-Trafficking Legal Officer).
- Helping clients understand their legal position and the resources available to them.
- Giving support and advice on other emergencies surrounding legal protection needs.
- Producing expert medico-legal evidence to document the (often long-term) psychological and/or physical impact of their traumatic experiences.

In 2020 it also:

- Worked closely with HBF's specialist Counter-Trafficking team in 67 cases to ensure that victims of trafficking, including survivors of sexual or labour exploitation, were provided with counter-trafficking letters or statements documenting their history and circumstances to support their legal protection claim.
- Worked to support clinical team members to provide 69 clinical letters to promote access to justice for disabled and vulnerable clients.
- Assisted in the application of over seven travel documents for clients prior to the pandemic, obtaining 100% successful applications so far.
- Secured legal representation under the legal aid scheme for 10 clients.

In 2020, the provision of medico-legal reports was interrupted by disruption caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. HBF's Medico-Legal Services provided 76 expert medico-legal reports, documents that report the long-term physical and psychological impact of traumatic experiences. These reports are used as evidence for international protection in the UK. Our expertise in preparing them continues to be recognised by the courts and tribunal and by the Home Office. Our review of outcomes in 2020 showed that, following the provision of medico-legal reports in 2019, where the final outcome was known, in 87% of cases the client was granted a form of leave to remain in the UK. This is compared with an average success rate of 54% for claims between 2016-2018.¹

¹ The Migration Observatory brings together the information for the total success rate: <https://migrationobservatory.ox.ac.uk/resources/briefings/migration-to-the-uk-asylum/>. The 2018 figures give a 29% grant rate for initial decisions: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-june-2018/how-many-people-do-we-grant-asylum-or-protection-to> ; and a 45% average success rate at appeal: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/tribunal-statistics-quarterly-january-to-march-2019-for-appeals-evidence>, which is generally consistent.

Housing and Welfare

HBF's specialist housing and welfare casework ensures that clients' practical, everyday needs are met and that social deprivation, including street homelessness and destitution, are avoided through timely and often emergency interventions. During the pandemic the work of the Housing and Welfare department increased significantly — with a 15% increase in interactions, meaning 278 people who were able to avoid destitution and homelessness and were kept safe.

In 2020 the Housing and Welfare team provided 281 letters, and during the pandemic the team assisted survivors with issues including (but absolutely not limited to) the following:

- Applications for asylum support.
- Applications for mainstream benefits once they had status.
- Making a homelessness application to the local authority.
- Approaching the local authority's adult social services for accommodation and support under the Care Act, due to high support needs.
- Management of NHS debt.
- Applications for grants including to alleviate destitution, furnish accommodation, and support educational needs.

Over the course of 2020, notwithstanding the pandemic and the commitment to address homelessness, there were still very worrying instances where our clients were threatened with destitution (75), homelessness (51) and of being housed somewhere clinically unsuitable (51). 574 housing and welfare problems were reported, of which:

- 89% of housing and welfare problems with a short-term resolution were solved in under one month; and
- 86% of other housing and welfare problems were resolved with a long-term resolution.

A critical part of the Housing and Welfare team's work has been to support survivors who get leave to remain or refugee status to transition to universal credit and mainstream accommodation, a task that poses significant challenges as it involves several long and complicated online forms and often mounting appeals against decisions.

Counter-Trafficking

The HBF Counter-Trafficking Programme delivers intricate, intensive and person-specific contact and safeguarding for survivors to support them through the many difficulties they face. This service was all transferred remotely to support survivors during the Covid-19 crisis, when they were at increased risk.

Our counter-trafficking work includes:

- Specialist Counter-Trafficking Assessments and provision of documentation, letters and witness statements for legal procedures within asylum, immigration, National Referral Mechanism (NRM) and criminal justice. Working collaboratively with solicitors and barristers to ensure that our clients are fully heard and understood by the Home Office and court judges.

- Contact and safeguarding support for all HBF's clients who have been trafficked, focusing primarily on reducing through action, their risk indicators for re-trafficking. This includes recognising specific instances of risk, including: unsafe and inappropriate accommodation, irregular immigration status, difficulties with threats, intimidation and bullying, and helping to prevent survivors being drawn into exploitative or violent 'survival' relationships.
- Supporting, liaising and consulting with the other HBF departments that work with clients who are victims of trafficking.
- Reducing the risk of social isolation and increasing clients' self-esteem.
- Supporting and accompanying survivors through the UK NRM, asylum interviews and court hearings and criminal trials — for official recognition of victims of trafficking — and asylum systems.
- Providing support for all legal procedures, including criminal investigations by the Trafficking Specialist Unit of the Metropolitan Police (SC&09) and other UK police forces.
- Helping survivors to access compensation under the European Trafficking Directive.

Due to the lack of specialist provision available for this group, in 2019 we set ourselves a target: increasing our work in this area by ensuring that up to 50% of all new clients were survivors of trafficking. In 2020, we met that aim, 47% of new Model of Integrated Care clients were survivors of trafficking. Across the Counter-Trafficking Programme:

- 170 clients (107 women and 63 men from across countries in Africa, Asia and Central Europe) were provided with specialist support from the Counter-Trafficking team due to their high level of vulnerability as victims of trafficking — an increase from 2019.
- On average, at any one time, approximately 15% of the team's caseload involves working with clients who are facing immediate risks relating to trafficking, exploitation or violence.
- During this high-risk period, the Counter-Trafficking team increased their interventions for clients by 30%.

The pandemic created an additional set of risk factors for HBF's clients in the Counter-Trafficking Programme. Social isolation is a key risk factor in itself for re-trafficking and other forms of harm, as well as mental and physical health deterioration. This meant that it was vital to be in touch with each person and ensure that they had access to digital communications and were supported to access primary services. The Counter-Trafficking team maintained regular contact with clients to provide reassurance, focussing on reducing the risk indicators from social isolation and in-person trafficking. However, the risks from internet contact, via social media and other forums online, were heightened. There were also issues relating to housing in lockdown, as clients lived in cramped and inappropriate conditions together with people they didn't know (including mixed gender accommodation). In response, the team instituted a rota of 'at risk' individuals for contact calls, and co-ordinated other care (related to health, welfare, housing and legal advice) for clients where needed, as well as ensuring that trafficking risks were noted and prioritised. We did not have any critical incidents of re-trafficking or disappearance during 2020.

During 2020 the Counter-Trafficking team also continued to issue letters and/or witness statements for clients' legal cases in the NRM and asylum applications, in addition to the medico-legal reports provided by our clinicians (also using remote means).

Community and Integration

Through the Community and Integration Programme, our clients can engage in activities unrelated to their trauma and form safe and positive relationships with others in a similar position. They learn new skills and develop confidence and independence. This is a key part of our three-stage therapeutic model that ensures our clients have the strength to move on. In 2020 we moved all of our community groups online. The volunteers who run the different creative arts and skills groups surpassed themselves in adapting to online provision and imaginatively ensuring that our clients could still access a supportive community.

In 2020 HBF expanded its community and integration activities supporting a total of 127 clients. Due to the pandemic, with many other social opportunities closed off, the team focused on providing access to further and higher education, resulting in:

- 4 clients assisted into university.
- 18 clients attending college courses.

The Community Group is a weekly group designed to support our most isolated clients to participate in a community where they can socialise regularly, gain useful information and skills, as well as increase their confidence and independence, in a fun and relaxed space. In 2020 the Community Group grew to a regular group of 25 in person at the beginning of the year, with 10-15 clients attending each week online.

Welfare Call Initiative

The biggest initiative of the Community and Integration department in 2020 was the delivery of the welfare calls in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The calls started at the beginning of the first lockdown and were targeted at ensuring that our most vulnerable and isolated clients had regular contact with a volunteer to raise problems but also to have a conversation. Often the calls were the only regular contact that our clients had during lockdown.

The calls were made on a weekly, then fortnightly and then monthly basis, depending on the situation of the client and also the level of restrictions at the time. Check-in calls will be an ongoing feature of our work with survivors as we go forward. During 2020, 239 clients were supported with welfare calls and nearly 1500 calls were made in total.

Asylum Aid Services – *protection from persecution*

To increase the scope of our work and protect more people at a time when securing quality Legal Aid representation is increasingly difficult for survivors, bringing Asylum Aid into the HBF Group enables us to support a further focus on protection from persecution. Asylum Aid ensures that survivors are protected and can rebuild their lives in safety and with freedom by providing high quality legal representation for as long as it takes, to provide safety and freedom for survivors. In 2020, eight out of nine decisions were positive — a success rate of 89%.

Legal Representation

Asylum Aid was re-launched as a charity in its own right in August 2020, having prior been a part of the charity Consonant. In the period between the beginning of August 2020 and 31st December 2020, the team provided legal representation to 97 survivors of trafficking, torture and gender-based violence, refugees and people seeking asylum, and 21 stateless persons.

Our work with our clients continued despite the pandemic, but the organisation for the most part converted to working remotely except in those cases where face-to-face appointments were necessary because of client vulnerability. The impact of the pandemic has resulted in challenges for Asylum Aid clients. In particular, the delays in all decision-making have resulted in clients being left in limbo, uncertain as to whether they will get protection and be able to move on with their lives. Significant delays continue to occur in:

- the taking of initial decisions,
- the listing of appeals,
- the determination by the NRM regarding whether the person is a victim of trafficking,
- the making of statelessness grants, and
- the grant to clients of their biometric residence permit once they have been given refugee status.

Welfare Advice

The team provided welfare advice to over 328 individuals through the Welfare Advice Services Partnership. The focus of Asylum Aid's Welfare Advice team is on migrant and vulnerable communities. Over 80% of those receiving welfare support from Asylum Aid were either migrants and/or people of colour and one third had a disability or long-term ill health. Since August 2020, Asylum Aid's welfare advice service has secured over £360,000 in additional support for its clients.

Partnership and Collaborations

Our work relies on collaborations with others and therefore HBF is very happy to report that our partnership with the member-led charity the **Happy Baby Community** continued, and supported over 250 women and their babies and children.

We also continued our partnership with **Young Roots**, continuing to support hard to reach separated asylum seeking children and young people, who often face greater barriers in accessing mental health and other support, with assessments, stabilisation interventions and also treatment. This year we have expanded this partnership by working with local NHS Mental Health provision to bring on board a trainee psychologist to support our work with the project.

The lack of access to vital mental health services during the pandemics was a problem for many organisations. Following a request for support, we formed a new partnership with **Women for Refugee Women** to offer clinical support to the women in their network. We provided clinical assessments that facilitated access to mental health services, as well as delivering therapeutic interventions designed to help women to stabilise and manage their mental health.

In 2021:

Over the coming year we will increase our direct impact through delivery best practice services and collaborate with others to:

- Launch our programme to prevent the re-trafficking, exploitation and abuse of survivors of trafficking and torture.
- Increase access to legal protection for survivors of trafficking and torture, focussing on areas where there is little access to legal services by:
 - increasing the number of clients that Asylum Aid accept from remote referrals, and
 - developing further supervision and support partnerships.
- Improve access to evidence-based treatment for survivors of trafficking and torture globally through partnerships.
- Work collaboratively to ensure that survivors of trafficking and torture's rights to protection and rehabilitation are retained and improved rather than abandoned.

PART TWO: Creating system change — Research, policy and practice

Our vision is a world where **all** survivors of torture, trafficking and extreme human cruelty have safety, freedom and power. We therefore use our combined expertise to deliver meaningful policy and practice change that improves the asylum and trafficking systems and ensures that all survivors receive the appropriate standard of care from government services nationally and internationally.

We do this by:

- Improving the environment that all survivors experience by using our clinical and organisational expertise to influence and contribute to the development of law, policy and best practice.
- Driving the development and delivery of effective, evidence-based approaches that respond to survivors' needs, in the UK and globally, by offering expert training and disseminating our research findings.
- Investigating the consequences of our clients' experiences on their health and wellbeing and improving understanding of the clinical vulnerabilities of survivors of trafficking and torture and the complexity of their trauma following atrocity.

Strategic Legal Work

HBF engages in strategic legal work where it seeks to improve the legal systems (for international protection and trafficking), further the rights of our clients and increase their access to justice.

Due to the pandemic environment it became quickly clear that engagement in strategic legal work was going to be critical to ensuring the safety and protection of our clients. In 2020 senior members of the HBF team provided evidence in 10 legal cases, double that of 2019. The majority of the evidence we provided was in the form of witness statements which concerned challenges to the fairness of various aspects of the asylum system.

A significant case, given this UK Government's desire to expand the use of detention and accelerate decision-making processes, is that of **TN Vietnam** — a joint intervention with **Detention Action** in the Supreme Court about the poor identification of vulnerability in the detained fast-track and how negative decisions taken under that unlawful process should be treated now. Our intervention included a witness statement from Cornelius Katona, Medical and Research Director, with input from Rachel Witkin, Head of Counter-Trafficking and Publications.

We supported the successful legal challenge brought to challenge the use of barracks accommodation at Napier, Kent.

We also provided evidence in:

- A successful challenge to removals to other EU countries undertaken without adequate screening for the identification of trafficking survivors who have transited through Libya — a country with a high occurrence of trafficking.
- A successful challenge to the cessation of NRM payments to trafficking survivors in the middle of the pandemic.
- A challenge to the way in which antisocial behaviour is not managed within NASS accommodation.
- A challenge based on the impact of the failure to transfer a vulnerable HBF client to a single room — that is to provide appropriate accommodation.
- An important challenge based on the impact of inappropriate accommodation and disrepair on a vulnerable HBF client and survivor of human trafficking.
- A challenge regarding the nature and impact of Home Office delays in relocation of vulnerable clients.
- Providing a country expert report for the case of a British national with complex needs who had been trafficked to the US. As a result the client was granted a visa.
- A challenge to the 'unsafe release' from immigration detention and the risks it creates for survivors.

At a time when the right to challenge executive power through the rule of law is being actively undermined by the current UK government, the Helen Bamber Foundation Group is committed to ensuring scrutiny of government policy and practice when there are negative impacts upon the survivors we work with.

Policy and best practice

Due to the rapidly changing environment during the Covid-19 pandemic and the impact of both the pandemic and subsequent policy responses on survivors of trafficking and torture, the HBF team felt it was a matter of priority that we share our learnings, and the experiences of the survivors we work with, in order to address or prevent deteriorating impacts. We undertook significant policy work across the following areas:

1. Legal Protection

We began by successfully requesting the halting of reporting conditions for our clients during the height of the pandemic — the contrast of survivors having to travel to report while the majority of Home Office staff could work from home was stark. We continue to press for learnings to be taken forward on the basis of this positive experience in reducing reporting conditions and have supported strategic litigation. We produced [recommendations](#) to tribunals on remote processes along with [Freedom from Torture](#). We continue to closely monitor the use of remote asylum and trafficking interviews and tribunal appeal hearings. Towards the end of the year we also joined forces with others in light of the increase in charter flights removing potentially vulnerable asylum seekers to safe third countries and outside Europe (including Ghana, Nigeria and Albania), to provide clinical assessments to those in detention to highlight why such rushed removals were unsafe.

2. Counter-Trafficking

At the beginning of the pandemic it was clear that the very concerning vulnerabilities of survivors of trafficking, in particular their risk of re-trafficking, exploitation and abuse, were not being addressed by this government. Therefore a key priority for us was clearly communicating the issues facing survivors and spotlighting potential solutions for addressing them. The HBF drafted a report calling for the UK government to [Protect and Safeguard Survivors of Modern Slavery who have insecure immigration status](#) during the pandemic which was supported by over 50 other organisations. In this work we continued our strong partnerships with [Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group UK](#) and [Human Trafficking Foundation](#), as well as the [FLEX Detention Task Force](#). This work was supported by additional content provided in briefings and submissions as well as in support of strategic litigation.

In addition, throughout 2020 our Head of Counter-Trafficking & Publications, Rachel Witkin, was a lead consultant and author for the [Organisation on Security and Cooperation in Europe's \(OSCE\)](#) revised handbook on National Referral Mechanisms, working with a panel of international trafficking experts, including survivor leaders. She also worked collaboratively with HBF's clinical team to deliver the health information required for the handbook. The NRM Handbook will be published in 2021 and distributed widely to governments and all relevant stakeholders in the 57 OSCE member states.

3. Housing and Welfare

We have contributed to several policy pieces on housing and support, including a call to increase housing support rates (and subsequent media work when these were not meaningfully increased), a call for adequate National Asylum Support Service (NASS) accommodation with an end to room-sharing to promote social distancing, and work to allow clients to access wifi and phones to reduce isolation and promote access to information. We signed up to calls to action from [Freedom from Torture](#) on asylum support, the [Public Law Project](#) and [SBS](#) on support for survivors of domestic abuse, the [Disability Benefits Consortium](#) on work to increase legacy benefits, [NACCOM's](#) (NACCOM is a national network of frontline organisations and charities across the UK preventing destitution amongst people seeking asylum, refugees and other migrants), joint letter on homelessness and migration, and [Asylum Matters'](#) wake-up call based on evidence of state failures causing destitution and delays.

4. Expanding use of quasi-detention

We worked collaboratively driving forward a coalition of HBF, [Freedom from Torture](#), [Doctors of the World](#), [Care 4 Calais](#), and [Humans for Rights](#), in order to explore the best way to document the harm done to vulnerable asylum seeking and trafficked people housed in the inhumane former barracks facilities in Wales and Kent. Through our documentation, [joint reports](#), advocacy and media, working with local campaigners and former residents, we successfully ensured that the former barracks in Penally, Wales were closed and that considerable scrutiny was brought to bear on the use of the former barracks in Napier, Kent.

5. Consultation responses

As part of our drive to ensure systemic responses during the pandemic we also provided the following consultation responses:

- Home Office consolidated medico-legal report API consultation — in liaison with **Freedom from Torture**.
- Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration consultation on Home Office Presenting Officers — the individuals who present the Home Office's case at appeal hearings — this response was also endorsed by ILPA.
- The Equality and Human Rights Commission exploration into mental capacity and mental illness and detention.
- The Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration's Second Adults at Risk call for evidence.
- The Home Office Adults at Risk planning around medical standards, changing the Adult at Risk thresholds and changing the way survivors of human trafficking are dealt with in detention.
- The Independent Review of Administrative Law's call for evidence (on judicial review).
- [Submission](#) to the UK Parliament on the Future of Legal Aid.
- [Submission](#) to the Work and Pensions Committee's Inquiry into Universal Credit.
- [Submission](#) to the Women and Equalities Committee Call for evidence on Covid-19 and people with protected characteristics.
- Submission to the Environment Food and Rural Affairs Select Committee's Inquiry into Food Supply amid Covid-19.
- [Submission](#) to the Home Affairs Select Committee's Inquiry into Home Office preparedness for Covid-19.
- We also worked on a handbook on fitness to give evidence and mental capacity co-badged by ILPA

Training

HBF provides training across three broad areas:

- Working with, and better protecting, survivors of trafficking
- Therapeutic approaches in working with refugee and asylum seeking populations
- The application of medico-legal evidence

Highlights from our training programme and outreach include:

- Partnering with **Freedom from Torture** and the UK Visas and Immigration policy team to deliver medico-legal report training programme for technical specialists and senior caseworkers — training that both received excellent feedback and paves the way for sustainable change as a seminal collaboration with the Home Office, which should result in informed decision-making by Home Office caseworkers.
- Training staff from NHS Psychological Services, such as Camden CAMHS and South London and Maudsley CAMHS, in the use of evidence-based trauma-focused therapies such as Narrative Exposure Therapy.

- Training barristers on modern slavery and mental health at the 'Modern Slavery Advocacy Weekend' at Inner Temple, London.
- Delivering a masterclass for researchers at the Cambridge Centre for Applied Research into Human Trafficking, to raise the professional and interdisciplinary standards of emergent scholars in the field of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery.

We also delivered a webinar 'Supporting Survivors: Adapting to the Challenges of Covid-19', attended by 72 of our sector colleagues across the legal, medical, psychological and healthcare professions. We shared our new learnings and evolving best practice in key areas, with discussion covering:

- Adapting a therapy service to remotely support survivors struggling with mental health;
- How HBF moved to remote MLRs and psychological MLRs;
- The impact of Covid-19 on the BAME community;
- Supporting access to healthcare for asylum seekers and refugees during Covid-19;
- Protecting survivors of human trafficking during Covid-19.

[The Trauma-Informed Code of Conduct for All Professionals Working with Survivors of Trafficking and Slavery](#) (2021) (TiCC), authored by Rachel Witkin and Dr Katy Robjant and published in 2018, was updated in 2020 to include further information on working with 'cultural mediators'. Republished in 2021, it has been widely shared across the UK and global sectors prompting frequent requests for training. In particular, we are proud of the adoption of the TiCC by St. Mary's University, London for its short course '[Identification, support and care of victims of modern day slavery](#)'— which provides professionals in health and social care, law enforcement and criminal justice, civil society organisations, education or local and national government, with the skills to support survivors of modern slavery.

The TiCC is a simple, accessible guide for all professionals who may find themselves working with survivors of trafficking. It has a firm basis in the combination of specialist trauma care and experiential multi-faceted and multi-disciplinary work with survivors of trafficking. TiCC is concise and easy to follow for busy people, enabling them to:

- Establish and maintain a mutual relationship of trust with survivors in any working context or environment.
- Impart a consistent sense of calm, security and safety throughout the course of their work.
- Increase the confidence of survivors and minimise the risks of causing distress and re-traumatisation.
- Remain safe and well in the course of their work, avoiding secondary traumatisation and professional 'burnout'.

Research and dissemination

We spoke at several conferences during the course of the year. Critically, our feasibility and pilot study of Narrative Exposure Therapy in the treatment of survivors of trafficking is now complete. We have analysed the results which look very positive and provide strong support for a full-scale trial. Meanwhile we are completing the write-up for publication in 2021.

We currently have the following projects ongoing:

- A 'proof of concept' Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) study exploring the biological underpinning of trust-related abnormalities in survivors of multiple and repeated trauma who have 'complex PTSD'. This is in collaboration with partners at [King's College London](#).
- A systematic review of the use of witchcraft and related rituals as forms of control in survivors of human trafficking.
- A study of the effectiveness of case management in the care of survivors of trafficking (funded by the [National Institute of Health Research](#) and led by [King's College London](#)).
- A pilot study of an assertiveness intervention for survivors of forced labour.
- A pilot study of 'moral injury' in survivors of trafficking.

In 2020 we also published the following articles:

- Mavranouzouli I, Megnin-Viggars O, Grey N, Bhutani G, Leach J, Daly C, Dias S, Welton NJ, Katona C, El-Leithy S, Greenberg N, Stockton S, Pilling S. (2020 Apr 30). **Cost-effectiveness of psychological treatments for post-traumatic stress disorder in adults**. PLoS One.
- Mavranouzouli I, Megnin-Viggars O, Daly C, Dias S, Welton NJ, Stockton S, Bhutani G, Grey N, Leach J, Greenberg N, Katona C, El-Leithy S, Pilling S (2020 Mar) **Psychological treatments for post-traumatic stress disorder in adults: a network meta-analysis**. Psychological Medicine.
- Arnold FW, Chisholm J, Cohen J, Katona C, Payne-James J. (2020 Jan). **Release arrangements for immigration detainees are medically unsafe**. British Medical Journal.
- Chaplin L, Ng L, Katona C (2020 Sep) **Refugee mental health research: challenges and policy implications**. BJPsych Open.
- Walker S, von Werthern M, Brady F, Katona C. (2020 Jul 20). **Mental health of forced migrants recently granted leave to remain in the United Kingdom**. International Journal of Social Psychiatry.
- Abbas P, von Werthern M, Katona C, Brady F, Woo Y (2020 Apr) **The texture of narrative dilemmas: qualitative study in front-line professionals working with asylum seekers in the UK**. BJPsych Bulletin.
- Waterman, L. Z., Katona, C., & Katona, C. (2020). **Assessing asylum seekers, refugees and undocumented migrants**. BJPsych Bulletin, 44(2), 75-80.
- Cohen, J., Katona, C., & Bhugra, D. (2020). **National data on suicide must include ethnicity**. British Medical Journal.

In 2021

Over the coming year we will increase our impact through research, training and policy, and collaborate with others to:

- Develop a robust trauma-informed training programme for all those working with survivors of trafficking in the UK and globally.
- Drive forward large-scale research in order to improve practice and provision of therapy for survivors of trafficking and torture.
- Work with our Human Rights Advisory Group to develop a plan to increase the access of survivors of trafficking to protection and security.

- Deliver clear evidence as to the unworkable and unjust proposals in the Nationality and Borders Bill, and the ongoing impact of the hostile environment in increasing the vulnerability of survivors of trafficking and torture, to re-trafficking, exploitation and abuse.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Framework

Policies relating to reserves and the need to generate an annual operating surplus together provide a financial framework within which HBF seeks to function.

Reserves policy

Forming part of reserves, the unrestricted general fund is the working fund of the charity. Unlike the other funds, it is not restricted or designated for a defined purpose. The unrestricted general fund provides for activities not funded by earned income or restricted funding and for the general administration of the charity. It also provides working capital for operations and helps to provide resources to ensure that the charity is able to continue with its obligations.

Currently our Group policy is to maintain an unrestricted general fund of between three and six months of gross expenditure, (£600k to £1.2m), for the next financial year. Given the importance of being confident that the group can maintain its support to our very vulnerable clients, the trustees aim to increase the sum in the unrestricted general fund. The Group Trustees have therefore approved a three-year plan to hold an unrestricted general fund of up to nine months of gross expenditure by December 2023.

As Asylum Aid joined the Helen Bamber Foundation Group in August 2020 with no reserves or assets but serves a common charitable purpose, the HBF has agreed to make good the shortfalls where needed and support Asylum Aid to meet the group reserves policy over time. In December 2020 Asylum Aid ended the year positively with 2.4 months reserves.

Summary of results

In 2020 activities resulted in a surplus of £336,101. This is a fantastic result as the forecasts undertaken in April 2020 indicated that the charity could end in deficit due to the fall in event income. Instead fundraised income, which is HBF's principal funding source, raised just over what was budgeted. largely because of the quick response of funders to help charities meet the shortfall. Simultaneously the organisation reviewed spending to make sure we could adapt our services to the new needs of our clients and also make savings and efficiencies through the inclusion of remote delivery.

HBF ended 2020 in a good financial position with an unrestricted general fund of £1,140,379 (up from £810,063 in 2019). The unrestricted general fund is £182,034 below the top end of the current target level of reserves of about £ 1,322,413, although well above the bottom end of the target range. A budget showing a surplus has been set for 2021.

Risks

The major risks to which the HBF is exposed, as identified by the trustees, have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate these risks. Among the risks identified, the most significant are considered to be:

- The fact that event fundraising which remains a key element of the diversity of HBF groups income remains a challenge.
- The challenge of ensuring that funds are raised for Asylum Aid to fill the gap left by the delays in receipt of legal aid funding due to delays in closure of cases and that activities are planned in order to meet budget requirements.
- The uncertainty over further lockdowns and the execution of Covid-19 secure work places which place an operational strain on the services which remain at high demand.
- The increasingly inhumane environment facing our client group and corresponding ineffectiveness of the asylum system, and the equivalent likelihood of an increase in the number of clients with complex needs.

These risks are mitigated in part through close operational monitoring and application of the reserves policy.

Subsequent events and going concern

The pandemic has had a profound impact on all aspects of life, including the activities of the HBF. We have had to move to remote working and had to close our services to new clients at times when we were unable to undertake face-to-face assessments a necessary safeguarding measure.

The trustees have put in place measures to mitigate the risks to the HBF due to ongoing delays in Asylum Aid's closure of cases due to delays in decision making by the Home Office and the courts, resulting in a delay receipt of payment from the Legal Aid Authority for work done, by focusing on fundraised income during this period. It is not considered that Brexit will have a negative impact on HBF income.

Having regard to these steps and the reserves held at the year-end by the Helen Bamber Foundation Group, the trustees consider it reasonable to expect that HBF has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the trustees continue to adopt the 'going concern' basis in preparing the accounts. The trustees and senior management have increased the regularity of financial forecasts in both the short and medium term. We continue to strengthen our financial processes and systems so we can monitor financial risk, and where required, take appropriate management action.

Remuneration policy

The objectives of HBF's remuneration policy are to:

- Reward staff appropriately and enable the recruitment and retention of high calibre personnel.

- Ensure the proper use of the charity's resources in accordance with its aims and within affordable limits, based on the financial circumstances of the charity.
- Be non-discriminatory, just and equitable in the evaluation of jobs and their remuneration by providing a stable framework for the remuneration of the team.
- Pay at a competitive level taking account of external market rates — the aim being to set pay around the median level for comparable posts in the voluntary sector, subject to the charity's financial position.
- Operate within the law.

Remuneration is reviewed on an annual basis and agreed by the Board of Trustees. When setting pay levels, the charity gives consideration to external benchmark comparators, changes in the national average earnings index, affordability and other internal and external pressures including recruitment and retention. The policy applies to all staff, including the charity's executive team. The total remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer and two directors including employer's NI and employer's pension contributions was £185,939.

Fundraising

HBF's fundraising team produces an annual Income Generation Strategy against which performance is regularly monitored by senior management and trustees. In 2020, HBF had to rapidly adjust its fundraising strategy to respond to the pandemic. This was successful with fundraised income of £1,966,883 in 2020, compared to £1,427,233 in 2019.

HBF's fundraising approach reflects the principles published on the HBF's website www.helenbamber.org. The charity's fundraising programme is delivered using internal resources and in 2019 did not involve external professional fundraisers or commercial participators. HBF does not generate merchandise for fundraising purposes.

HBF is registered with the [Fundraising Standards Board](#). Registration with the Board represents a commitment to the highest standards of practice and ensures that all fundraising activity is open, legal and fair. As a registered participant, HBF commits to the Board's Codes of Fundraising Practice, which is the standard set for fundraisers in the UK. Registered participants also commit to abide by its Fundraising Promise. The Fundraising Promise is based on 6 key pledges which reflect the core values of respect, honesty, accountability and transparency. HBF's strong commitment to recognised sector standards means that the charity is actively working to protect vulnerable people and other members of the public from behaviour which:

- Is an unreasonable intrusion on a person's privacy.
- Is unreasonably persistent.
- Places undue pressure on a person to give money or other property.

HBF has received no complaints in regard to its fundraising activities in 2020.

Public benefit

In setting HBF's objectives and planning its activities, the Board of Trustees has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. In particular the Board of Trustees considers how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set. The benefits that HBF brings to the public are:

- Relieving and assisting people and protecting the health of people who are at risk by reason of their experience of torture, hostilities, genocides or other atrocities.
- Preventing sickness and protecting the health of people who are at risk from such experiences.
- Relieving poverty among those people.
- Educating people on all issues concerning gross violation of human rights, torture and atrocities and the effect on people who experience such suffering.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also directors of the HBF for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 charitable company and group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company and group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware.
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 December 2020 was 10 (2019 : 9). The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the charitable company's auditor during the year and has expressed its willingness to continue in that capacity.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 26 August 2021 and signed on their behalf by

Charlotte Seymour-Smith, Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Helen Bamber Foundation (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, the group and parent charitable company balance sheets, the consolidated statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2020 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the group financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on Helen Bamber Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the group financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the group financial statements does not cover the other information, and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the group financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the group financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- The information given in the trustees' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements
- The trustees' annual report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees (who are also the directors of the parent charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and the parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or the parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with those Acts.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are set out below.

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's and group's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;

- The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the group operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the group from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Joanna Pittman (Senior statutory auditor)

1 September 2021

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor
Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL

Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Consolidated statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)**For the year ended 31 December 2020**

		Unrestricted	Restricted	2020 Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	2019 Total
	Note	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:							
Donations – legal protection	2	–	262,013	262,013	–	3,880	3,880
Donations – therapy and casework	2	–	283,526	283,526	–	200,440	200,440
Donations – community integration	2	–	59,906	59,906	–	113,438	113,438
Donations – counter trafficking	2	–	43,259	43,259	–	54,299	54,299
Donations – research, policy, dissemination	2	–	28,915	28,915	–	17,000	17,000
Donations – general	2	1,196,894	92,370	1,289,264	1,019,177	19,000	1,038,177
Charitable activities							
Fees from medical legal reports – Legal protection		81,364	–	81,364	165,152	–	165,152
Westminster ASP			30,653	30,653			
Other income		62,027	15,158	77,185	8,133	8,500	16,633
Bank interest		1,136	–	1,136	2,130	–	2,130
Total income		1,341,421	815,800	2,157,221	1,194,592	416,557	1,611,149
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	3	254,273	–	254,273	240,072	1,900	241,972
Charitable activities							
Legal protection	3	189,079	272,495	461,574	261,710	6,920	268,630
Therapy and casework	3	227,083	343,073	570,156	361,374	215,970	577,344
Community integration	3	54,703	78,380	133,083	77,063	115,718	192,781
Counter trafficking	3	91,478	61,733	153,211	98,646	56,199	154,845
Research, policy and dissemination	3	201,433	47,389	248,822	271,921	14,850	286,771
Total expenditure		1,018,050	803,070	1,821,120	1,310,786	411,557	1,722,343
Net income / (expenditure) and movement in funds		323,371	12,730	336,101	(116,194)	5,000	(111,194)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		850,283	5,000	855,283	966,477	–	966,477
Total funds carried forward		1,173,654	17,730	1,191,384	850,283	5,000	855,283

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 15a to the financial statements.

As at 31 December 2020

	Note	The group 2020 £	2019 £	The charity 2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	8	33,275	40,220	32,003	40,220
		33,275	40,220	32,003	40,220
Current assets:					
Debtors	11	110,267	219,675	125,031	219,675
Cash at bank and in hand		1,373,480	739,943	1,183,530	739,943
		1,483,747	959,618	1,308,561	959,618
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(325,638)	(144,555)	(217,087)	(144,555)
Net current assets		1,158,109	815,063	1,091,474	815,063
Total net assets		1,191,384	855,283	1,123,477	855,283
Funds:	15a				
Restricted income funds		17,730	5,000	17,730	5,000
Unrestricted income funds:					
Designated fixed asset fund		33,275	40,220	33,275	40,220
General funds		1,140,379	810,063	1,072,472	810,063
Total unrestricted funds		1,173,654	850,283	1,105,747	850,283
Total funds		1,191,384	855,283	1,123,477	855,283

Approved by the trustees on 26 August 2021 and signed on their behalf by John Scampion

Consolidated statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	2020 £	£	2019 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		336,101		(111,194)	
Depreciation charges		16,547		12,754	
Decrease in debtors		109,408		116,447	
Increase in creditors		181,083		38,508	
Net cash provided by operating activities		643,139		56,515	
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Purchase of fixed assets		(9,602)		(20,093)	
Net cash used in investing activities		(9,602)		(20,093)	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		633,537		36,422	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		739,943		703,521	
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year a		1,373,480		739,943	
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents and of net debt					
	At 1 January 2020 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	At 31 December 2020 £	
Cash at bank and in hand	739,943	633,537		1,373,480	
a Total cash and cash equivalents	739,943	633,537		1,373,480	

1 Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

Helen Bamber Foundation is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom.

The registered office address is Bruges Place, 15–20 Baynes Street London NW1 0TF.

b) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) – (Charities SORP FRS 102), The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charity and its subsidiary Asylum Aid on a line by line basis. Transactions and balances between the charity and its subsidiary have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements. Balances between the two entities are disclosed in the notes of the charity's balance sheet. A separate statement of financial activities, or income and expenditure account, for the charity itself is not presented because the charity has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

In applying the financial reporting framework, the trustees have made a number of subjective judgements, for example in respect of significant accounting estimates. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The nature of the estimation means the actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. Any significant estimates and judgements affecting these financial statements are detailed within the relevant accounting policy below.

Comparatives are not directly comparable due to acquiring Asylum Aid in August 2020.

c) Reporting period

The financial statements cover the year to 31 December 2020. (For Asylum Aid period covered is 1st August to 31st December 2020).

d) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

e) Going concern

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

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

f) Recognition of income

Recognition of income takes place in accordance with applicable accounting policies and results are presented in accordance with the SORP. All incoming resources are included in the Statement of financial activities when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably. Grants and donations are recorded in the period in which they are received or the charity is entitled to the income.

Donations receivable for the general purposes of the charity are credited to Unrestricted funds and donations tied to a particular purpose are credited to Restricted funds.

Revenue grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable, whichever is earlier. Where unconditional entitlement to grants receivable is dependent on fulfilment of conditions within the charity's control, the incoming resources are recognised when there is sufficient evidence that conditions will be met. Where there is uncertainty as to whether the charity can meet such conditions, the incoming resource is deferred. When funding received is designated by the donor to be used in a specific future period, income is deferred.

Income from medico legal reports is recognised when the report has been completed and submitted to the customer and an invoice has been raised.

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

All other income, such as training fees, is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable probability. Legacies are included when there is reasonable probability of receipt, amount and timing.

Where income is received in advance of its recognition, it is deferred and included in creditors. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued and included in debtors.

g) Recognition of expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis in the period to which the cost relates and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered. Where costs cannot be directly attributable to particular activities, they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources. Overheads, salaries and governance costs are allocated between the activity headings on the basis of attributable employment cost, and an element of judgement is involved. Costs of raising funds are those costs, including fundraising expenditures, incurred by the charity to obtain funds. Support costs are those costs incurred which are not directly an output of the charitable activity. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with enabling the charity to comply with external regulation, constitutional and statutory requirements and in providing support to the Trustees in the discharge of their statutory duties.

h) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £250. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use. Major components are treated as a separate asset where they have significantly different patterns of consumption of economic benefits and are depreciated separately over its useful life.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Only individual assets costing £250 or more and not forming part of a larger project are capitalised. This level is periodically reviewed, along with the need for a formal impairment review.

Provision is made for depreciation of fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less the estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over 3 years and other fixed assets over 4 years.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

i) Cash at bank and in hand

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

j) Recognition of liabilities and constructive liabilities

Liabilities, including constructive obligations, are recognised at the point at which the charity is deemed to have entered into a binding commitment. Provisions are recognised when there is a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the obligation.

k) Leases

Rental costs under operating leases are charged to expenditure as incurred. Lease incentives received by the charity are released on a straight line basis to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period until the first break clause or, in the case of leases already existing, until the rent review.

l) Pensions

The charity contributes to a stakeholder pension scheme on behalf of its staff, and the cost is recognised as incurred.

m) Taxation status

As a charity, Helen Bamber Foundation is exempt from taxation of income and gains falling within Section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent these are applied charitably. No tax charge has arisen in the year.

n) Funds

The charity's financial statements are a consolidation of individual funds. These divide into two distinct categories: unrestricted and restricted.

Unrestricted funds

The use of these funds has not been restricted to a particular purpose by the donor. The unrestricted funds comprise the General fund and Designated funds.

General fund

The General fund is the working fund of the charity. It is not tied or designated as are the other funds for use for a particular or defined purpose. The General fund has to provide for the net deficit of any activities that have inadequate income of their own and for the general administration of the charity. It also provides working capital for operations and helps to provide resources to ensure that the charity is able to continue with its obligations in the event of a shortfall in income or unexpected upturn in expenditure. The current target level for the unrestricted general fund is between three and six months of the higher of projected gross income or gross expenditure for the next financial year.

Designated funds

Designated funds are those which have been allocated by the charity for particular purposes. The Fixed Asset reserve represents the net book value of the investment by the General fund in fixed assets.

Restricted funds

These are income funds tied to particular purposes. They include gifts made to the charity to be used in accordance with the wishes of the donors. Until funds are expended, they are placed on deposit or held in cash.

o) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due, after provision for doubtful debts.

2 Income from donations

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2019 Total £
Donations – trusts and foundations	683,904	705,981	1,389,885	774,369	350,323	1,124,692
Donations – individuals	313,085	34,858	347,943	54,529	13,525	68,054
Donations – corporate	98,926	29,149	128,075	174,748	43,490	218,238
Other	100,978	–	100,978	15,530	720	16,250
	1,196,893	769,988	1,966,881	1,019,176	408,058	1,427,234

The "other" donations comprise income from community fundraising and a fundraising campaign comprising one main event in 2020.

2 Income from donations (continued)

Restricted and unrestricted donations from trusts and foundations of £2,000 or greater in 2020 were as follows:-

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2019 Total £
The A. B. Charitable Trust	50,000	-	50,000	20,000	-	20,000
Access for Justice Foundation	-	74,300	74,300	-	-	-
The Adfal Trust	-	-	-	4,000	-	4,000
Allen & Overy Foundation	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	-
Anti-Slavery International	-	2,000	2,000	-	-	-
Barrow Cadbury Trust	-	99,750	99,750	-	-	-
The Marshall L & Deborah L Berkman Family Charitable Trust	-	-	-	-	8,957	8,957
The Blyth Watson Charitable Trust	2,000	-	2,000	2,000	-	2,000
British Humane Association	-	-	-	-	4,000	4,000
The Bryan Guinness Charitable Trust	5,000	-	5,000	5,000	-	5,000
City Bridge Trust	-	37,666	37,666	-	45,834	45,834
Comic Relief	-	95,556	95,556	-	119,234	119,234
Donald Forrester Trust	-	-	-	-	5,000	5,000
Eva Reckitt Trust Fund	-	2,500	2,500	-	-	-
The Emmanuel Kaye Foundation	30,000	-	30,000	-	-	-
The Evan Cornish Foundation	-	12,000	12,000	-	12,000	12,000
The Fulmer Charitable Trust	-	-	-	3,000	-	3,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	20,000	20,000	-	-	-
Give Way to Freedom	-	-	-	-	4,638	4,638
Goldman Sachs Gives	-	-	-	15,000	-	15,000
The Edward Gostling Foundation	-	3,000	3,000	-	-	-
The Harkness Family Foundation	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	-
The Henry Smith Charity	-	50,000	50,000	-	50,000	50,000
ILPA	-	5,259	5,259	-	-	-
The Leigh Trust	5,000	4,000	9,000	-	4,200	4,200
The London Community Foundation	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-
The Marwyn Trust	7,434	-	7,434	183,616	-	183,616
The McCartney Foundation	50,000	-	50,000	25,000	-	25,000
Moynitrust	5,000	-	5,000	5,000	-	5,000
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	100,000	100,000	-	-	-
Oak Foundation	150,000	-	150,000	150,000	-	150,000
Outdoors For All	-	-	-	-	4,500	4,500
The Pilgrim Trust	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Pilkington Charities Fund	-	-	-	3,000	-	3,000
Postcode Equality Trust	250,000	100,000	350,000	250,000	-	250,000
Schroder Charity Trust	-	5,000	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
The Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Trust	-	2,000	2,000	-	-	-
The Souter Charitable Trust	3,000	-	3,000	3,000	-	3,000
The Segelman Trust	-	-	-	3,333	-	3,333
Trust for London	10,000	10,000	20,000	-	-	-
The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	-	11,625	11,625	-	11,475	11,475
Wellcome Community Support Fund	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-
William Brake Charitable Trust	-	7,000	7,000	-	2,000	2,000
The Wright Family Foundation	10,000	-	10,000	15,000	-	15,000
29th May 1961 Charitable Trust	-	3,000	3,000	-	-	-
Other trusts - Trusts under £2,000	2,470	6,425	8,895	5,420	8,902	14,322
Other Anonymous	94,000	34,900	128,900	82,000	54,583	136,583
Total	683,904	705,981	1,389,885	774,369	350,323	1,124,692

3a Analysis of expenditure (current year)

	Cost of raising funds £	Charitable activities					Support and Governance costs £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
		Legal protection £	Therapy and casework £	Community Integration £	Counter Trafficking £	Research, policy and dissemination £			
Staff costs (Note 5)	161,049	280,295	328,946	82,616	105,992	160,495	76,604	1,195,997	1,018,865
Legal protection	-	75,150	-	-	-	-	-	75,150	51,136
Therapy and casework	-	-	116,661	-	-	-	-	116,661	137,160
Community Integration and creative arts programme	-	-	-	19,186	-	-	-	19,186	68,154
Counter Trafficking	-	-	-	-	7,087	-	-	7,087	11,386
Education, policy and research	-	-	-	-	-	27,559	-	27,559	50,698
Fundraising costs	32,246	-	-	-	-	-	-	32,246	36,385
Premises costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	187,174	187,174	189,479
Audit	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,100	12,100	8,400
Trustee expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	743
Office and supplies costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	83,491	83,491	68,129
Irrecoverable VAT	-	-	-	-	-	-	63,864	63,864	64,392
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,547	16,547	12,754
Movement on doubtful debt provision	-	-	-	-	-	-	(15,942)	(15,942)	4,662
	193,295	355,445	445,607	101,802	113,079	188,054	423,838	1,821,120	1,722,343
Support and Governance costs allocation	60,978	106,129	124,549	31,281	40,132	60,768	(423,838)	-	-
Total expenditure 2020	254,273	461,574	570,156	133,083	153,211	248,822	-	1,821,120	
Total expenditure 2019	241,972	268,630	577,344	192,781	154,845	286,771	-		1,722,343

Governance costs are included above under audit fees and trustees' expenses.

3b Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Cost of raising funds £	Charitable activities					Support and Governance costs £	2019 Total £	2018 Total £
		Legal protection £	Therapy and casework £	Community Integration £	Counter Trafficking £	Research, policy and dissemination £			
Staff costs (Note 5)	159,993	144,544	271,489	69,915	97,865	167,683	107,376	1,018,865	809,193
Legal protection	-	51,136	-	-	-	-	-	51,136	51,380
Therapy and casework	-	-	137,160	-	-	-	-	137,160	85,602
Community Integration and creative arts programme	-	-	-	68,154	-	-	-	68,154	77,247
Counter Trafficking	-	-	-	-	11,386	-	-	11,386	7,716
Education, policy and research	-	-	-	-	-	50,698	-	50,698	47,399
Fundraising costs	36,385	-	-	-	-	-	-	36,385	51,608
Premises costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	189,479	189,479	139,268
Audit	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,400	8,400	8,300
Trustee expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	743	743	1,646
Office and supplies costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	68,129	68,129	65,805
Irrecoverable VAT	-	-	-	-	-	-	64,392	64,392	58,871
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,754	12,754	7,075
Movement on doubtful debt provision	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,662	4,662	8,458
	196,378	195,680	408,649	138,069	109,251	218,381	455,935	1,722,343	1,419,568
Support and Governance costs allocation	45,594	72,950	168,695	54,712	45,594	68,390	(455,935)	-	-
Total expenditure 2019	241,972	268,630	577,344	192,781	154,845	286,771	-	1,722,343	
Total expenditure 2018	201,582	174,824	608,140	172,379	123,327	139,318	-		1,419,568

Governance costs are included above under audit fees and trustees' expenses.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

4 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2020 £	2019 £
Depreciation	16,547	12,754
Operating lease rentals:		
Property	145,049	143,500
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Current year audit	9,500	8,400
Independent examination of Asylum Aid	2,600	-
	<u>167,196</u>	<u>164,654</u>

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

Staff costs were as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Salaries and wages	1,027,058	877,176
Social security costs	80,742	76,469
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	36,396	28,112
Recruitment costs	8,001	2,695
Interim staffing costs	36,624	34,413
Redundancy costs (paid as at 31.12.20)	7,176	-
	<u>1,195,997</u>	<u>1,018,865</u>

One employee earned between £60,000 and £70,000 during the year (2019: one).

The total employee benefits, (including pension contributions and employer's national insurance) of the senior management executive were £185,939 (2019: £161,002).

The Trustees were not paid or in receipt of any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2019: £nil). No Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2019: £nil).

The Trustees were not paid or in receipt of any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2019: £nil). No Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2019: £nil).

No Trustee expenses were incurred by the charity in the year (2019: nil).

6 Staff numbers

The average number of employees based on the average headcount employed during the year was as follows:

	2020 No.	2019 No.
Fundraising	4.0	4.0
Charitable activity	25.5	23.3
Support	5.0	4.0
Governance	2.0	2.0
	<u>36.5</u>	<u>33.3</u>

7 Related party transactions

There were management charges of £26,430 relating to HBF staff costs recharged to AA in 2020 (2019: £nil).

There were no donations from related parties which were outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties. The total amount of donations received in 2020 from Trustees or parties related to them was £10,144 (2019: £364).

8 Tangible fixed assets**The group**

	Leasehold Improvement £	Fixtures and fittings £	ICT and medical equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At the start of the year	113,376	34,163	47,367	194,906
Additions in year	–	–	9,602	9,602
Disposals in year	–	–	–	–
At the end of the year	113,376	34,163	56,969	204,508
Depreciation				
At the start of the year	105,982	20,151	28,553	154,686
Charge for the year	2,922	5,138	8,487	16,547
Eliminated on disposal	–	–	–	–
At the end of the year	108,904	25,289	37,040	171,233
Net book value				
At the end of the year	4,472	8,874	19,929	33,275
At the start of the year	7,394	14,012	18,814	40,220

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

The charity

	Leasehold Improvement £	Fixtures and fittings £	ICT and medical equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At the start of the year	113,376	34,163	47,367	194,906
Additions in year	–	–	8,245	8,245
Disposals in year	–	–	–	–
At the end of the year	113,376	34,163	55,612	203,151
Depreciation				
At the start of the year	105,982	20,151	28,553	154,686
Charge for the year	2,922	5,138	8,402	16,462
Eliminated on disposal	–	–	–	–
At the end of the year	108,904	25,289	36,955	171,148
Net book value				
At the end of the year	4,472	8,874	18,657	32,003
At the start of the year	7,394	14,012	18,814	40,220

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

9 Subsidiary undertaking

The charity controls the subsidiary, Asylum Aid, a company registered in England. The company number is 2513874 and charity number is 328729. The registered office address is that of the parent company. It is a subsidiary of the Helen Bamber Foundation (parent company) as the parent company board have majority control of Asylum Aid.

The subsidiary is used for the primary purpose of providing legal representation and access to justice for refugees and those seeking asylum. All activities have been consolidated on a line by line basis in the statement of financial activities.

A summary of the results of the subsidiary is shown below:

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2020 £	2019 £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	59,243	139,409	198,652	–
Charitable Activities	6,720	–	6,720	–
Other trading activities	30,653	–	30,653	–
Total Income	96,616	139,409	236,025	–
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	17,783	–	17,783	–
Charitable Activities	10,926	139,409	150,335	–
Total Expenditure	28,709	139,409	168,118	–
Net income for the year	67,907	–	67,907	–
Total funds brought forward	–	–	–	–
Total Funds carried forward	67,907	–	67,907	–

10 Parent charity

The parent charity's gross income and the results for the year are disclosed as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Gross income	1,891,070	1,611,149
Result for the year	268,194	(111,194)

11 Debtors

	The group		The charity	
	2020 £	2019 £	2020 £	2019 £
Trade debtors	29,163	69,895	29,163	69,895
Amounts due from group undertakings	–	–	30,090	–
Prepayments & other debtors	44,445	58,041	44,445	58,041
Accrued income	36,659	91,739	21,333	91,739
	110,267	219,675	125,031	219,675

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	The group		The charity	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	23,141	23,263	11,865	23,263
Taxation and social security	27,534	28,803	21,080	28,803
Accruals	79,556	30,823	77,003	30,823
Deferred income (note 13)	138,139	61,666	107,139	61,666
Other creditors	57,268	–	–	–
	325,638	144,555	217,087	144,555

13 Deferred income

Deferred income relates to three restricted donations. Income is deferred as it relates to future periods

	The group		The charity	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
Balance at the beginning of the year	61,666	35,054	61,666	35,054
Amount released to income in the year	(61,666)	(35,054)	(61,666)	(35,054)
Amount deferred in the year	138,139	61,666	107,139	61,666
Balance at the end of the year	138,139	61,666	107,139	61,666

14a Analysis of group net assets between funds (current year)

	General unrestricted	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	–	33,275	–	33,275
Net current assets	1,140,379	–	17,730	1,158,109
Net assets at the end of the year	1,140,379	33,275	17,730	1,191,384

14b Analysis of group net assets between funds (prior year)

	General unrestricted	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	–	40,220	–	40,220
Net current assets	810,063	–	5,000	815,063
Net assets at the end of the year	810,063	40,220	5,000	855,283

15a Movements in funds (current year)

	At 1 January 2020 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2020 £
Restricted funds:					
Legal protection	-	262,013	(254,021)	-	7,992
Therapy and casework	5,000	283,526	(278,788)	-	9,738
Community integration	-	59,906	(59,906)	-	-
Research, policy and dissemination	-	28,915	(28,915)	-	-
Counter Trafficking	-	43,259	(43,259)	-	-
Westminster ASP	-	30,653	(30,653)	-	-
Other income	-	15,158	(15,158)	-	-
General	-	92,370	(92,370)	-	-
Total restricted funds	5,000	815,800	(803,070)	-	17,730
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated fixed asset fund	40,220	-	(16,547)	9,602	33,275
General funds	810,063	1,341,421	(1,001,503)	(9,602)	1,140,379
Total unrestricted funds	850,283	1,341,421	(1,018,050)	-	1,173,654
Total funds	855,283	2,157,221	(1,821,120)	-	1,191,384

The narrative to explain the purpose of each fund is given at the foot of the note below.

15b Movements in funds (prior year)

	At 1 January 2019	Income & gains	Expenditure & losses	Transfers	At 31 December 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:					
Legal protection	–	3,880	(3,880)	–	–
Therapy and casework	–	208,940	(208,940)	–	–
Community integration	–	113,438	(113,438)	–	–
Research, policy and dissemination	–	17,000	(12,000)	–	5,000
Counter Trafficking	–	54,299	(54,299)	–	–
Sponsorship	–	19,000	(19,000)	–	–
Total restricted funds	–	416,557	(411,557)	–	5,000
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds:					
Fixed assets fund	32,881	–	(12,754)	20,093	40,220
Strategic Investment Fund	151,385	–	(151,385)	–	–
Total designated funds	184,266	–	(164,139)	20,093	40,220
General funds	–	–	–	–	–
Total unrestricted funds	184,266	–	(164,139)	20,093	40,220
Total funds	184,266	416,557	(575,696)	20,093	45,220

Purposes of restricted funds

Legal protection

The restricted funds for protection work are to fund legal protection and advocacy support work; providing refugee and asylum seeking clients with a fair chance at seeking justice against the perpetrators of the interpersonal violence they experienced, international protection from the government and appropriate welfare support and housing provision. This includes legal staff salaries, client travel and interpreter costs and any other associated costs of administrating and providing legal protection and advocacy support to clients.

Therapy and casework

The restricted funds for therapy and casework are to fund our therapeutic care for survivors of gross human rights violations, helping individuals and families to overcome the psychological impact of interpersonal violence and achieve sustained recovery from acute trauma symptoms, Complex Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and other resultant mental health issues. This includes clinical staff salaries, client travel and interpreter costs and associated costs of administrating referrals for our services and providing tailored support and counselling for clients.

Community integration

The restricted funds for community integration are to assist clients to become valued members of society and combine work from different areas. Mind and body work are to fund therapies which use the mutual influence of body on mind, and mind on body to facilitate healing and recovery from trauma. The programme includes acupuncture, cranio-sacral therapy, hakomi and internal family systems, movement, pilates, yoga (including pre- and post-natal), massage, breathing training and osteopathy. The restricted funds are for clinical staff salaries, equipment, volunteer costs and client travel.

The restricted funds for social wellbeing work are to fund the Creative arts programme, which includes language and skills classes and artistic and social groups for clients of the Foundation, to break isolation and aid recovery. This includes the costs of materials, client travel, volunteer expenses and the salary of the coordinating staff member.

Purposes of restricted funds (continued)

Research, policy and dissemination

These restricted funds are to fund work on research, policy and dissemination.

Counter Trafficking

The restricted funds for counter trafficking are to enable the foundation to fund a model of integrated care for victims of human trafficking. This includes clinical staff salaries, client travel and interpreter costs and associated costs of administering referrals for our services and providing tailored support and counselling for clients.

Westminster ASP

Westminster Advice Services Project (WASP) is a consortium led by Westminster Citizens Advice, which Asylum Aid has been a member of since 2016. It is a consortium put together by NGOs based in Westminster and funded by Westminster council on a 3–5 year rolling contract, to provide advice and support services on welfare legal matters. Asylum Aid's USP input to this project is a multi-language volunteer advisor system, in which we train and supervise local people to interpret for us when providing advice to Westminster residence for whom English is a second language. The yearly funding covers the cost of two specialist advisors (part time), and rental costs for Derry House from where we provide outreach and drop in advice services as well as associated costs of administering our services.

Other income

We continued our partnership with Young Roots , an organisation that supports hard to reach separated asylum seeking children and young people, who often face greater barriers in accessing mental health and other support. The funds (£9,266) were for clinical staff time who provided assessments, stabilisation interventions and also treatment.

We formed a new partnership with Women for Refugee Women to offer clinical support to the women in their network. The funds (£5,892) were for clinical staff time who provided clinical assessments that facilitated access to mental health services, as well as delivering therapeutic interventions designed to help women to stabilise and manage their mental health.

Purposes of designated funds

Fixed assets fund

A designated fund has been established to represent the net book value of the charity's fixed assets.

Strategic Investment Fund

A designated fund was established to enable HBF to establish its position and build its reputation through building a partnership culture which would enable HBF to reach a wider range of audiences. As planned this fund was expended during 2019.

16 Operating lease commitments payable as a lessee

The group's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods:

	Property	
	2020	2019
	£	£
Less than one year	185,716	185,716
Two to five years	412,102	557,151
	597,818	742,867