

ASSOCIATION OF VISITORS TO IMMIGRATION DETAINEES

England & Wales · Charity number 1156709

Details

Other names	AVID
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2014-04-15
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	PO Box address Only Avid 27-31 Carlton Road Nottingham NG3 2DG
Phone	07900196131
Email	enquiries@aviddetention.org.uk
Website	www.aviddetention.org.uk/

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE EXCLUSIVELY THE CHARITABLE RELIEF OF IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES WHO ARE SUFFERING HARDSHIP, DISTRESS OR ARE IN NEED, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE, BUT WITHOUT LIMITING THE GENERALITY OF THE FOREGOING, TO THOSE WHO ARE IMPRISONED OR DETAINED UNDER IMMIGRATION LEGISLATION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Activities: Volunteer visitors network: supporting volunteer visitors to immigration detainees wherever they are held. We are a membership network supporting 14 groups across the country who visit those detained. We provide information, support, resources and advocacy, and work to achieve positive change in the detention system.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£299,752	£156,261	-	-
2024-04-05	£193,098	£217,543	-	-
2022-12-31	£141,587	£82,063	-	-
2021-12-31	£86,699	£143,519	-	-
2020-12-31	£141,175	£91,664	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Basma Doukhi		2023-06-07
Hannah Cooper		2023-06-07
Ms Shannon Olivia Smith		2025-01-13
Niusha Bonakdarian		2024-09-25
Wiki Mark		2025-09-03

ASSOCIATION OF VISITORS TO IMMIGRATION DETAINEES

England & Wales - Charity number 1156709

Accounts

Charity registration number: 1156709

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the period from 6 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Community Accounting Plus
Units 1 & 2 North West
41 Talbot Street
Nottingham
NG1 5GL

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

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Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	Hannah Cooper Basma Doukhi
Trustees	Wiki Mark Hannah Cooper Shannon S Smith Basma Doukhi
Secretary	Niusha Bonakdarian
Senior Management Team	Miranda Reilly, Co-Director Geerthanshan Manoharan, Co-Director
Charity Registration Number	1156709
Principal Office	PO Box 27 - 31 Carlton Road Nottingham Nottinghamshire NG3 2DG
Independent Examiner	Eva Stevens, employee of Community Accounting Plus Units 1 & 2 North West 41 Talbot Street Nottingham NG1 5GL
Accountants	Community Accounting Plus Units 1 & 2 North West 41 Talbot Street Nottingham NG1 5GL

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 March 2025.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The objects of the CIO are exclusively the charitable relief of immigrants and refugees who are suffering hardship, distress or are in need, with particular reference, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, to those who are imprisoned or detained under Immigration Legislation in the United Kingdom.

Public benefit

AVID was founded in 1994 in response to the increase in numbers held in immigration detention, and to the feedback from people supporting those detained in their local communities. At that time, there were around 250 immigration detention spaces. There are now 2660 places in detention and in the year ending June 2025, 21,653 people entered detention. The government's stated purpose of detention is for removal and, by law, it should be used sparingly and for the shortest period possible. Despite this, the majority of people are detained only to be released into UK communities, where they rightfully belong, but at devastating cost to their lives.

Immigration detention, the threat of detention, and the aftermath of detention, are all points of extreme crisis in a person's immigration journey. The harm caused by detention is well-documented through the testimonies of people who have been detained, in research and by clinical professional bodies. Individuals have their autonomy stripped and have no knowledge of when they will be released. It has been described by people detained as "mental torture".

Visitors play a vital role in mitigating the harm that is caused by detention. They meet with people detained to provide emotional support, be a friend, give practical advice, liaise with lawyers and signpost to other organisations who can help. Further, visitors have a unique understanding of the daily, lived realities in detention centres, which commonly operate in remote and isolated areas. However, visiting is not easy, emotionally nor practically. To fulfill their role and maximise their impact, visitors and visitor groups benefit from advice, support, and collaboration. AVID was established in direct response to this need more than thirty years ago. We were established by visitors and this has resulted in strong and trusting relationships in our community as well as extensive knowledge about visiting in immigration detention centres. AVID continues to be an essential source of support to visitors and visitor groups to ensure access to sites of detention; guidance, information and training; and to facilitate connections to one another as well as acting as a bridge to key stakeholders, partner organisations and to the wider public.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and performance

Goal 1: To strengthen and increase the capacity of visitors and visitor groups.

A small network, relationships remain at the heart of the way we work. The support which we provide to our members takes place alongside ongoing 1-1 support and a dedicated point of contact within the AVID team. During this period, we supported our members with areas including: detention casework guidance, managing referrals, trustee recruitment, fundraising efforts, access issues and escalation of wider concerns.

We have delivered core training on visiting skills in detention to visitor groups in Durham (Durham Visitors Group, attended by 5 volunteers), Nottingham (Midlands Migrant Support, attended by 3 volunteers and 1 staff member) and in Manchester (Manchester Immigration Detainee Support Team, attended by 10 volunteers). We also delivered bespoke training on policy areas impacting detention to Beyond Detention in Bedford and Scottish Detainees Visitor Group in Scotland.

In addition to tailored support, we have delivered a programme of training available to members across our network. We held a follow up session on safeguarding in detention (6 participants) to build on work we had done in the year prior to develop bespoke safeguarding policies and practices which respond to the unique context of frontline work in immigration detention. Related to this, we partnered with Trauma Treatment International to deliver two training sessions (one full day in person and a half-day online with a total of 19 participants) to build our understanding of trauma, what it means to work in a trauma-informed way and how we can mitigate against risks of burnout and compassion fatigue.

We also ran two complementary training sessions to support visitors to understand the complex legislative and policy landscape that governs detention (21 participants) and practical guidance on access to legal advice in detention (24 participants). Participants from these sessions told us:

"It was helpful to have more clarity regarding how to support people in preparation for any legal meeting they have." (Participant of Legal Advice and Representation in Detention, November 2024)

"Clear breakdown of the law and how it all relates to each other, as well as practical implementation of the law." (Participant of Detention Legislation, Policy and Guidance with ILPA, January 2025)

"Very well delivered, clear and informative." (Participant of Detention Legislation, Policy and Guidance with ILPA, January 2025)

In Summer 2024 we launched a new website and an updated version of our visitor handbook, which was made available as an online, publicly available resource for the first time. This was an extensive piece of work designed to make our resources and information on detention more accessible to people in detention, their friends and family, visitors and wider partners working in detention. Our website includes an interactive map on detention, an online training space and a knowledge hub with guides, facts and figures and broader information on detention. Our handbook covers extensive information on immigration detention with chapters on: an introduction to visiting; who can be detained; immigration detention legislation, policy and guidance; detention in the prison estate; legal advice; bail, removal and deportation; and safeguards in detention.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Trustees' Report (continued)

Goal 2: Increase pathways for collaboration, shared strategies and participation among visitor groups.

We have continued to provide a space for structured peer-support, to share best practice and identify trends in detention via our monthly members call. To complement our members call, and carve out time to problem solve in relation to identified issue areas, we also facilitate topic/area specific sessions. We have delivered: three online calls for visitor groups who visit people in prison; two Deep Dive workshops on best practice (monitoring and evaluation/compensation and remuneration for people with lived experience of detention); two working groups in relation to two of our members charter values (anti-racism/care and accountability); four crisis response meetings when 220 people were detained and threatened with deportation to Rwanda in May 2024. These spaces have resulted in specific actions and increased collaboration across our network. Specifically, as a result of the Rwanda response calls we coordinated a joint letter to Director General for Immigration Enforcement calling for the release of all people detained for Rwanda when the plans stalled after the general election announcement. As a result of prison groups calls, we wrote to the (then) new Prisons Minister calling for the government to bring an end to the prosecution of people arriving to the UK to seek sanctuary resulting from the Nationality and Borders Act 2022. In a different vein - and as a result of our working group on anti-racism - we hosted a reading group for detention visitors on a Home Office independent research report on 'The Historical Roots of Windrush Scandal'. This was the first time we had run something of this kind and enabled visitors from across the UK to connect, reflect and contextualise detention within the context of the UK's immigration history.

In February 2025, we hosted our annual two-day conference. This was attended by 29 people, representing nine AVID members and three partners in detention (Medical Justice, Bail for Immigration Detainees and The No Accommodation Network). Over the course of the two days we offered a varied programme involving: networking & mapping; training and troubleshooting on issues areas (bail, release into homelessness and safeguards in detention); strategising on policy and advocacy aims; and a workshop on collective care/re-connecting with our why. As is often the case with such events, the most important outcome from the conference was the nourishment that came from being together in person. We came away feeling more connected, with new ideas for how to work together and with fresh energy to tackle the day-to-day of working in detention. One attendee told us:

“Connecting with like-minded people is always a joy. I have personal experience of immigration detention and am liable to be detained at any time, so seeing this network of people in the same room, fills me with hope.”
(AVID conference attendee, February 2025)

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Trustees' Report (continued)

Goal 3: Connect with the wider movement and utilise our unique strengths to oppose immigration detention and advocate for investment in community based solutions for people who are without a regular immigration status.

As above, we have used our shared platform to co-ordinate joint actions and advocate to key stakeholders. In addition to the two joint letters highlighted above, we co-ordinated a joint letter with 77 signatories against plans to re-open Haslar and Campsfield Immigration Removal Centres to the (then) Home Secretary Yvette Cooper. This was in response to the arrival of the new government with continued plans to re-open previously closed immigration detention centres and took place alongside wider work in this area to support local groups campaigning in this area.

In Summer 2024, we held the first meeting for the "Immigration Detention Network" with the Independent Monitoring Boards (IMB), The Independent Visitors Custody Association (ICVA), AVID and Manchester Immigration Detainee Support Team (MIDST) to enable greater information sharing and escalation of issues in relation to the detention of people in police cells. This was the culmination of an extensive piece of work originating from MIDST's support to people in Manchester Residential Short Term Holding Facility (RSTHF) where they heard repeated and concerning reports from people detained in police cells and their treatment. AVID worked with MIDST to collate testimonies and freedom of information reports to build evidence on this under-researched area. This was shared with IMB and ICVA and the resulting "Immigration Detention Network" agreed to a 6-month period where they would jointly monitor the treatment of people detained in police cells.

We continued to work with wider partners in the sector including being an active member of the Detention Forum, a network of organisations committed to ending immigration detention, as part of their co-ordination group. We have connected visitor groups to key stakeholders bringing evidence to quarterly Home Office Stakeholder Forum meetings on detention and engaging with consultations on changes to detention policy, including a review of the Adults at Risk policy. We also worked closely with detention monitoring bodies - Independent Monitoring Boards and His Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) - to contribute evidence to their reports.

We have continued to raise public awareness of immigration detention through our regular blog and social media engagement. We have joined partners in the sector to speak at public facing events bringing our knowledge on immigration detention to Right to Remain's online rally on immigration detention; SOAS university's ICOP (Influencing the Corridors of Power) panel event; Westminster University's internship programme for social science students. We also launched a new animation titled 'Removed' - which we have co-produced with the Unchained Collective - which tells the story of a woman who is detained. More than 60 AVID member / partner representatives and members of the public joined us for the premiere in March 2025. This powerful event involved an online screening followed by a participatory "long table" discussion during which we were joined by others with lived-experience of detention who related their own experiences with what we had just watched. After watching the animation, one attendee told us:

"It is alone that pain and cruelty seems to defeat us. But together, in solidarity, we are larger." Attendee at Removed Premiere.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Trustees' Report (continued)

Goal 4: Shift power to people with lived experience of detention.

We provided community spaces for people with lived experience of detention and new opportunities for people with lived experience to have influence. This included awareness raising through a partnership with the Migration Museum and participation in their exhibition "All Our Stories" on the UK's history in immigration and a showcase in London of art, poetry and songs resulting from a collaboration with Liverpool University and CutToTheChase productions. We also worked with Beyond Detention's Art Group to develop an awareness raising campaign alongside the public letter which we co-ordinated against detention expansion. Beyond Detention's Art Group is a group formed of people who have previously been detained and meet regularly online, from across the country, to connect through art. We approached them to ask for ideas and worked with them to develop the idea for "Freedom Birds" to engage the public using art. We started a new partnership with Migrants in Culture and one artist with lived-experience of detention to create a series of drawings to reflect the values set out in our Member's Charter.

In November 2024, we joined His Majesties Inspectorate for Prisons (HMIP) annual conference with three people with lived experience of detention to present on their experiences of immigration detention, prison and what they would have liked inspectorates to know about their time in detention.

Finally, we have supported members of the AVID network to strengthen lived-experience participation. In addition to the Deep Dive mentioned above on remuneration and compensation for people with lived experience, we produced a memo with legal advice addressing questions on targeted recruitment, immigration and employment law.

Financial review

As shown on page 9, total income for this year was £299,752 and total expenditure £156,261, representing a surplus for the year. This is compared to a deficit in the year prior during which our total income was £193,098 and we had higher expenditure of £220,054.

We entered this financial year after a difficult fundraising period which led us to adapt our operations and reduce costs where possible. At the same time, we put increased efforts into our fundraising activities with ambitions to return to prior operational levels (which we were in a position to do in the latter half of the financial year) and further expand our staff team to meet increased need in detention. We were successful in our fundraising efforts, and this is reflected by the level of funds brought forward against lower expenditure due to adaptations made at the beginning of the year.

Several larger funds (the Rayne Foundation, Paul Hamlyn Foundation and Porticus Foundation) were received in the latter half of the year and relate to activities in the subsequent financial year. The grant received from Porticus Foundation relates to a two-year grant period (paid in one sum).

Policy on reserves

We allocate three months running costs to our reserves. our reserves at the end of the year reflected our policy, the reserves policy is reviewed annually and moving forward - as we plan to increase staff levels - we plan to increase our reserves.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The charity is operated under the rules of its constitution/trust deed adopted 15 April 2014 and most recently amended 2017.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Trustees' Report (continued)

Major risks and management of those risks


Financial risk

We are primarily reliant on trusts and foundations as a funding source. foundations often want to fund an organisation for a time limited period therefore we are regularly needing to look for new supporters, this also leaves us vulnerable if an anticipated, prospect fund does not come through.

With the length of funding deadlines and processes we need to be organised and efficient in applications. currently our fundraising is led by our Co-Director for Membership and Operations and we do not have a separate fundraising function.

Whilst at present we are in a fairly good financial position and benefit from having secured multi-year grants, we recognise that this can change very quickly and plan to maximise this moment by focusing on planning for the future and ways to diversify our funding streams so that we have more sustainable income streams.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 12/01/2026 and signed on its behalf by:



Hannah Cooper
Chairman and trustee



Basma Doukhi
Chairman and trustee

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

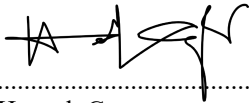
The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Approved by the trustees of the charity on ~~12/01/2026~~..... and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Hannah Cooper
Chairman and trustee

Basma Doukhi

.....
Basma Doukhi
Chairman and trustee

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Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees (the Charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

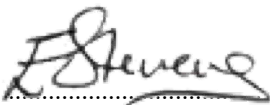
Independent examiner's statement

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Eva Stevens, BSc, CPFA, employee of Community Accounting Plus
member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)

Units 1 & 2 North West
41 Talbot Street
Nottingham
NG1 5GL

Date: 16/01/2026

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Statement of Financial Activities for the Period from 6 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 31 March 2025 £	Total 1 January 2023 to 5 April 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	105,042	-	105,042	174,852
Charitable activities	3	3,952	190,758	194,710	18,246
Total Income		<u>108,994</u>	<u>190,758</u>	<u>299,752</u>	<u>193,098</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	(85,681)	(70,580)	(156,261)	(220,054)
Total Expenditure		<u>(85,681)</u>	<u>(70,580)</u>	<u>(156,261)</u>	<u>(220,054)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		23,313	120,178	143,491	(26,956)
Gross transfers between funds		(421)	421	-	-
Net movement in funds		22,892	120,599	143,491	(26,956)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>72,432</u>	<u>6,739</u>	<u>79,171</u>	<u>106,127</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u><u>95,324</u></u>	<u><u>127,338</u></u>	<u><u>222,662</u></u>	<u><u>79,171</u></u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for the period is shown in note 12.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Statement of Financial Activities for the Period from 6 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 (continued)

These are the figures for the previous accounting period and are included for comparative purposes

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 5 April 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	174,852	-	174,852
Charitable activities	3	<u>3,696</u>	<u>14,550</u>	<u>18,246</u>
Total Income		<u>178,548</u>	<u>14,550</u>	<u>193,098</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	5	<u>(198,093)</u>	<u>(21,961)</u>	<u>(220,054)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(198,093)</u>	<u>(21,961)</u>	<u>(220,054)</u>
Net movement in funds		(19,545)	(7,411)	(26,956)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>91,977</u>	<u>14,150</u>	<u>106,127</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u><u>72,432</u></u>	<u><u>6,739</u></u>	<u><u>79,171</u></u>

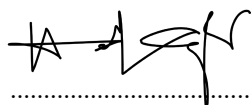
The notes on pages 13 to 20 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

(Registration number: 1156709) Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Current assets			
Debtors	9	418	1,942
Cash at bank and in hand	10	<u>226,174</u>	<u>81,693</u>
		226,592	83,635
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year			
	11	<u>(3,930)</u>	<u>(4,464)</u>
Net assets			
		<u>222,662</u>	<u>79,171</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds	12	127,338	6,739
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>95,324</u>	<u>72,432</u>
Total funds			
	12	<u>222,662</u>	<u>79,171</u>

The financial statements on pages 10 to 20 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on .12/01/2026... and signed on their behalf by:



.....
Hannah Cooper
Chairman and trustee



.....
Basma Doukhi
Chairman and trustee

The notes on pages 13 to 20 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Period from 6 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Gift aid

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the Statement of Financial Activities at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregates similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Period from 6 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 (continued)

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Period from 6 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 (continued)

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from companies, trusts and similar proceeds	99,000	99,000	161,000
Donations from individuals	6,042	6,042	11,052
Other income from donations and legacies	-	-	2,800
	105,042	105,042	174,852

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Workshops	1,914	-	1,914	1,464
Membership	1,755	-	1,755	1,691
Bank interest	283	-	283	241
Grants & Donations	-	190,758	190,758	14,550
Conference	-	-	-	300
	3,952	190,758	194,710	18,246

4 Grants and donations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Garfield Weston Foundation	25,000	-	25,000
Oakdale Trust	2,000	-	2,000
The 29th May Charitable Trust	5,000	-	5,000
City Bridge Foundation	-	40,318	40,318
Stichting Benevolentia (Porticus Foundation)	-	130,440	130,440
Rayne Foundation	-	20,000	20,000
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	61,000	-	61,000
Hillcote Trust	5,000	-	5,000
Sundry donations	6,042	-	6,042
Garden Court Chambers	1,000	-	1,000
	105,042	190,758	295,800

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Period from 6 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 (continued)

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Staff cost	2,458	2,369	4,827	5,620
Premises & running costs	3,241	2,896	6,137	28,402
Governance costs	3,912	120	4,032	6,152
Direct charitable expenditure	3,360	15,125	18,485	23,655
Wages, NI & pension	72,710	50,070	122,780	156,225
	<u>85,681</u>	<u>70,580</u>	<u>156,261</u>	<u>220,054</u>

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Period from 6 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 (continued)

6 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs during the period were:		
Wages and salaries	109,352	153,169
Social security costs	7,536	3,160
Pension costs	5,892	8,896
	122,780	165,225

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charity during the period was as follows:

	31 March 2025 No	5 April 2024 No
Staff	4	5

4 (2024 - 5) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the period totalled £7,536 (2024 - £8,896).

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the period

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £86,709 (2024 - £82,888).

7 Independent examiner's fees

During the period, the fees payable (excluding VAT) to the charity's independent examiner Community Accounting Plus are analysed as follows:

	6 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 £	1 January 2023 to 5 April 2024 £
Independent examination	875	840
Other financial services	1,530	1,536
	2,405	2,376

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Period from 6 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 (continued)

8 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from corporation taxation.

9 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Prepayments	418	1,942

10 Cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash on hand	622	376
Cash at bank	225,552	81,317
	226,174	81,693

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Other taxation and social security	2,191	2,733
Other creditors	1,739	1,731
	3,930	4,464

12 Funds

	Balance at 6 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General	72,432	108,994	(85,681)	(421)	95,324
Restricted funds					
Animation project	6,739	-	(7,160)	421	-
Shifting Power	-	130,440	(13,875)	-	116,565
City Bridge Foundation	-	40,318	(37,386)	-	2,932
Membership Support	-	20,000	(12,159)	-	7,841
Total restricted funds	6,739	190,758	(70,580)	421	127,338
Total funds	79,171	299,752	(156,261)	-	222,662

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Period from 6 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 (continued)

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 5 April 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
<i>General</i>				
General	91,977	178,548	(198,093)	72,432
Restricted				
Animation project	-	9,550	(2,811)	6,739
Training & membership coordinator	7,471	-	(7,471)	-
Digital transformation	6,680	-	(6,680)	-
Handbook fund	-	1,500	(1,500)	-
Cloud Artisan's NGF	-	3,500	(3,500)	-
Total restricted funds	<u>14,151</u>	<u>14,550</u>	<u>(21,962)</u>	<u>6,739</u>
Total funds	<u>106,128</u>	<u>193,098</u>	<u>(220,055)</u>	<u>79,171</u>

The transfer from the General fund to the Animation project fund is to cover the deficit on this activity.

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted		31 March 2025 Total funds £
	General £	Restricted £	
Current assets	99,254	127,338	226,592
Current liabilities	(3,930)	-	(3,930)
Total net assets	<u>95,324</u>	<u>127,338</u>	<u>222,662</u>
	Unrestricted		5 April 2024 Total funds £
	General £	Restricted £	
Current assets	76,896	6,739	83,635
Current liabilities	(4,464)	-	(4,464)
Total net assets	<u>72,432</u>	<u>6,739</u>	<u>79,171</u>

14 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the period.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Period from 6 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 (continued)

15 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

ASSOCIATION OF VISITORS TO IMMIGRATION DETAINEES

England & Wales - Charity number 1156709

Accounts

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
(Registered charity, number 1156709)
Financial statements
for the period 1st January 2023 to 5th April 2024

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**Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
Trustees' annual report
for the period 1st January 2023 to 5th April 2024**

Full name Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Other names by which the charity is known AVID

Registered charity number 1156709

Organisation type Charitable incorporated organisation

Principal address

27-31 Carlton Road, Nottingham, NG3 2DG

Trustees

Carolina Albuerne Rodriguez

Adam Spray

Hannah Cooper, from 07/06/2023

Basma Doukhi, from 07/06/2023

Niusha Bonakdarian, from 25/09/2024

Thomas Nunn, until 01/05/2023

Elizabeth Flint, until 14/07/2023

Harbi Jama, until 25/09/2024

Anne Hudson, until 14/08/2024

Michael Darko, until 15/03/2024

Independent examiner

John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus, Units 1 & 2, North West, 41 Talbot Street, Nottingham, NG1 5GL

Governance and management

The charity is operated under the rules of its constitution adopted 15 April 2014 and was last amended in 2017.

Trustees are recruited through a recruitment process - job descriptions are advertised externally and applicants are selected by Trustees by interview. Trustees are elected at the AGM. The AVID Trustees may in addition appoint co-opted members. However no-one may be appointed as a co-opted member if, as a result, more than one third of the members of the AVID Trustees would be co-opted members.

Objectives and activities

The purpose of AVID, as set out in our governing document, are the charitable relief of immigrants and refugees who are suffering hardship, distress or are in need, with particular reference, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, to those who are imprisoned or detained under Immigration Legislation in the United Kingdom.

We achieve this purpose by supporting, strengthening and promoting volunteer visiting to people in detention nationally and working towards an end of detention.

Our priorities are to:

1. strengthen and increase capacity and engagement of visitors to immigration detention in the UK.
2. increase pathways for collaboration, shared strategies and participation among visitor groups.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

3. connect with the wider movement and utilise our unique strengths to oppose immigration detention and advocate for investment in community based solutions for people who are undocumented.
4. shift power to people who have experience of immigration detention and hostile environment policies.

Established in 1994, AVID has built a strong platform and source of infrastructure support for visitor groups across the UK. Our 13 members, representing over 400 volunteer visitors, are diverse and dynamic. Some are registered charities with paid staff, others have a non-hierarchical structure or are volunteer led. Collectively, members of our network visit all seven Immigration Removal Centres (IRCs), all four Residential Short-Term Holding Facilities (RSTHF) and various prisons, and work in solidarity with more than 3000 people detained a year. AVID exists to reduce the immediate suffering of people detained and work towards a future without detention. We do this by enabling the vital role of visitors to immigration detention whilst facilitating collective action amongst UK visitor groups.

Our main activities to achieve our priorities outlined above are:

1. We strengthen and increase the capacity and engagement of visitors and visitor groups through ongoing 1:1 support and guidance, working with local communities from the earliest stages of establishing support and thereafter providing an ongoing programme of training, bespoke resources, and infrastructure provision.
2. We increase pathways for collaboration, shared strategies and participation amongst visitor groups through a programme of structured-peer support, skill-sharing and cultivate a community of care. This is underpinned by our Members Charter which are seven shared values at the heart of our network. These values are: solidarity; community; anti-racism and anti-oppression; lived-experience led; independence; care and accountability; and dignity.
3. We connect with the wider movement and utilise our unique strengths to oppose detention by monitoring and collecting evidence on detention, engaging the public with the human stories of visiting and by co-ordinating collective action and connections to key stakeholders.
4. We shift power to people with experience of detention and wider hostile environment policies in our own organisation and network through targeted recruitment activities, by providing resources and frameworks to visitor groups in the AVID network, through a range of community building activities and by providing a platform for engagement in policy efforts and initiatives.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit

AVID was founded in 1994 in response to the increase in numbers held in immigration detention, and to the feedback from people supporting those detained in their local communities. At that time, there were around 250 immigration detention spaces. In the year ending June 2024, 18918 people entered detention. The government's stated purpose of detention is for removal and, by law, it should be used sparingly and for the shortest period

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

possible. Despite this, the majority of people are detained only to be released into UK communities, where they rightfully belong, but at devastating cost to their lives.

Immigration detention, the threat of detention, and the aftermath of detention, are all points of extreme crisis in a person's immigration journey. The harm caused by detention is well-documented through the testimonies of people who have been detained, in research and by clinical professional bodies. In particular, the fact that detention in the UK is indefinite causes immense trauma. Individuals have their autonomy stripped, are transported around the detention state and have no knowledge of when they will be released. It has been described by people detained as "mental torture".

Despite this, the government has made clear their intentions to increase the use of detention, including plans to re-open the previously closed Campsfield House immigration removal centre (IRC) and Haslar IRC. Our history of working with local communities, and long-standing volunteers, has shown us that there is the need and possibility of a different approach to immigration. We stand with our members and others in the national and international community to advocate for engagement over enforcement, humanity not oppression.

Visitors play a vital role in mitigating the harm that is caused by detention. They meet with people detained to provide emotional support, be a friend, give practical advice, liaise with lawyers and signpost to other organisations who can help. Further, visitors have a unique understanding of the daily, lived realities of detention centres, which commonly operate in remote and isolated areas. However, visiting is not easy, emotionally nor practically. To fulfill their role and maximise their impact, visitors and visitor groups benefit from advice, support, and collaboration. AVID was established in direct response to this need thirty years ago. We were established by visitors and this has resulted in strong and trusting relationships in our community as well as extensive knowledge about visiting in immigration detention centres. AVID continues to be an essential source of support to visitors and visitor groups to ensure access to sites of detention; guidance, information and training; and to facilitate connections to one another as well as acting as a bridge to key stakeholders, partner organisations and to the wider public.

Summary of the main achievements during the period

Goal 1: To Strengthen and Increase the Capacity of Visitors and Visitors groups.

"The community and the solidarity. This is difficult work and it's great to feel validated in finding it tough!" (AVID Member on why AVID is important, Members Survey 2023)

In our 2023 Members survey, training was highlighted as the most important aspect of our support by our members. In this period, we have continued to provide bespoke training to visitors and visitor groups. We have delivered our core training on immigration detention and visiting skills to Larne House Visitors Group in Belfast and to Morton Hall Visitors Group in Nottingham. We also delivered training on the Illegal Migration Act to Beyond Detention at their visitor's conference in Bedford.

This was alongside a programme of network wide online training which involved: Psychological First Aid facilitated by Doctors Without Borders' Take Action Group to build a foundational understanding of mental ill health and trauma; Legal Advice training on access to legal

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

representation in detention with solicitor Adam Spray; Trafficking Indicators and the National Referral Mechanism with Beth Flint, Expert Witness on Trafficking and Detention Action; Safeguarding and Escalating Concerns in Detention with Safer Foundations; Applying for Bail in Prison with Bail for Immigration Detainees (BID); Lived Experience and the role of Bearing Witness with academic Hyab Yohannes; Solidarity with Sudanese Communities with Waging Peace; and Albanians – A Convenient Scapegoat with Albanian scholars, Kristina Millona and Piro Rexhepi. Our trainings were attended by an average of 20 – 30 people per session and received positive feedback:

“It was very good, the trainers are clearly very knowledgeable in this specific area which is fantastic, we had been trying to find safeguarding training that’s grounded in an understanding of detention/prisons and the different risks posed for a long time!” (Safeguarding training participant)

I learned the differences in legal aid for bail and substantive cases; (and) ^{20/01/202} about the differences in DDAs for those in IRCs, prisons and STHF... That's going to be really useful in conversations with people who want to understand their situation!” (Legal advice training participant)

We have continued to facilitate structured peer support and sharing of best practice through: our monthly members call, quarterly prison group calls; regular Deep Dive sessions on specific shared issues; and spaces for solidarity and reflection in response to crisis moments in detention. Deep Dive topics have included: accommodation, safeguarding and escalating concerns; and managing referrals and capacity.

We have provided ongoing 1:1 support and advice to members of our network. A particular area of concern has been changes to access requirements and areas for visitors to detention. We have advocated on behalf of visitor groups to the Home Office and detention centre management in order to clarify information; delay changes to access requirements; and secure regular drop-ins:

“Great support in relation to liaising with the Home Office and we are very grateful to you.” (AVID Member)

We have developed best practice guidance with a particular focus on safeguarding in detention. In collaboration with Safer Foundations and with input from people with lived experience of detention we developed our internal safeguarding policy and a template safeguarding policy for AVID members alongside the Deep Dive session and training on this topic. This was complemented by work to develop our wellbeing policy which was shared with the AVID network. To support this piece of work, we were part of the working group for Refugee Action’s Wellbeing Discovery Project on the unique challenges of working in the migration sector to organisational wellbeing.

Return of the AVID conference:

In March 2023 we held our Members Conference for the first time since the pandemic. It was attended by 25 people representing 12 of our members. We were joined by people who had attended a conference before and many individuals for whom it was their first time at an AVID conference. We encouraged people to attend with lived experience of detention, offering an extra funded spot to enable groups to do this. 6 people attended with lived experience. We had a packed agenda with sessions including: the history of immigration detention; solidarity within

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

and outside of detention; power and lived-experience leadership; AVID's new strategy; legal advice in immigration detention; monitoring in immigration detention and wellbeing. The conference was really important in building a sense of solidarity amongst the network and attendees hugely valued being able to put a face to a name and learn from one another in person. Groups commented that they would take away a feeling being part of a wider network, new ideas for co-production, increased knowledge particularly on legal advice and new understandings about the role of visitors within the wider movement.

"Great conference, much needed space - hopefully more in person conferences and events to come!" (Conference attendee)

Goal 2: To Increase Pathways for Collaboration, Shared Strategies and Participation Amongst Visitors Groups:

We continued with the development of our Members Charter (the shared values of our network) and have ensured that this remains a living document. We established three charter groups on priority areas identified by the network: anti-racism and anti-oppression; care and accountability; and independence. Twelve staff and/or volunteers from ten groups in our network signed up to participate in these groups along with AVID staff, with 4 - 5 members in each working group. The purpose of these working groups is to establish what these values mean in practice; encourage open and honest dialogue on where groups are meeting our aspirations and where we can do better; and consolidate this learning to be shared across the network. First meetings took place in November/December 2023.

We have continued to work with members of our network to monitor key issues in detention and work together to call for systems change. For example, in March 2023, following protests in Harmondsworth and Colnbrook in March 2023, we co-ordinated a joint letter with Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), Detention Action and Bail for Immigration Detainees (BID) to the Home Office Detention Escorting team raising concerns about the crisis in these centres and across the wider detention estate. We asked for immediate attention to the way that the response was been managed from detention centre staff, which included segregation and allegations of the use of force. The release of the Brook House Inquiry report in September 2023 provided a further opportunity to maintain pressure and raise awareness of the systemic failures across the immigration detention estate. We utilised social media, in partnership with Medical Justice, to build awareness and share content including of the testimonies of people detained in Brook House. At our Annual General Meeting (AGM) in January 2024 we invited Kate Eves, the Chair of the Brook House Inquiry, to speak alongside Anna Pincus, Director of Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group (GDWG) and AVID member, to speak about the Brook House Inquiry report, what we learnt and what next. The hybrid event was attended by 62 people.

A key achievement in relation to this goal has been the establishment of the "Immigration Detention Network" with the Independent Monitoring Boards (IMB), The Independent Visitors Custody Association (ICVA), AVID and Manchester Immigration Detainee Support Team (MIDST) to enable greater information sharing and escalation of issues in relation to the detention of people in police cells. This has been an extensive piece of work which involved collating and corroborating testimonies with MIDST, gathering key statistics from Freedom of Information requests to various police authorities and speaking at ICVA's conference in November 2023.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Goal 3: Connect to the Wider Movement to Oppose Immigration Detention

We held two workshops with AVID network member and researcher Thom Tyerman on “Solidarity within and against detention” in London (in June 2023) and in Manchester (in July 2023). The workshops brought groups together from across the UK including visitor groups, local campaign groups and national organisations. They provided a space for our network to connect with local groups organising to end detention and identify ways to strengthen collaboration resulting in new connections being made.

In response to the announcement of government plans to re-open Haslar and Campsfield IRCs (first announced in June 2022 and re-committed to under the current Labour government), which closed in 2015 and 2019 respectively, we supported local residents to Haslar IRC and previous visitors to establish a local campaign group providing resources and guidance. We delivered outreach and facilitated regular meetings with other local and national actors to keep momentum on campaigns to close these centres.

Alongside the wider movement, we stood firmly against the government’s plans to send people seeking asylum in the UK to Rwanda. We continued to work with wider partners in the sector including being an active member of the Detention Forum a network of organisations committed to ending immigration detention, joining their Co-ordination group and advising on lived-experience leadership in the network.

We have connected visitor groups to key stakeholders bringing evidence to the Committee for Prevention of Torture (CPT) during their visit to the UK in March/April 2023; quarterly Home Office Stakeholder Forum meetings on detention; and His Majesty’s Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP).

We presented at the HMIP conference in December 2023 on AVIDs role, challenges, concerns in relation to the Illegal Migration Act, the experiences of women in detention, and proposals for ways HMIP can better engage with visitors and people with lived-experience of detention. Alongside regular activities to engage with the wider public on the stories of visiting which include regularly updating our blog and engagement through social media, we have sought new ways to raise awareness – motivated by the fact that 2024 marked our thirtieth anniversary. At the beginning of 2024 we took part in an Internship Programme with the University of Westminster attended by students of Westminster and people with lived-experience of detention. We worked with the group to create materials based on AVID’s history and archives for a showcase event in Westminster University, centring around two timelines on resistance to detention and the history of detention.

Goal 4: Shift Power to People with Lived Experience of Detention

In this period, we have focused on building a community of advocates with lived experience of immigration detention through a wide range of projects. In July 2023, we brought together a coalition of people with lived experience of detention to write a joint letter to the newly coronated King Charles III timed with when the Illegal Migration Act 2023 received royal assent. The letter was signed by 29 people representing 20 nationalities who had spent a collective total of 13 years and 5 months in detention and raised awareness of the harm caused by detention, its history and connection to colonialism; and warned against the impacts of the Illegal Migration Act. We went with 8 people who had signed the letter to Madame Tussauds to “deliver” the

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

letter to the King Charles in the hope to raise awareness of our campaign using social media to share content created from this event.

In the first months of 2024, we delivered a series of four workshops (with 10 participants) in partnership with Liverpool University and Cut to the chase productions to explore the realities of detention in the UK. The workshops resulted in poetry, art and songs but most importantly, acted as a healing space for those involved.

“This work is important because it gives us a chance to express ourselves and we are not alone.” (Theatre programme participant)

Early in 2023 we also prepared and delivered a conference session for the Independent Monitoring Boards (IMB) on the ‘Reporting considerations, and monitoring from the perspective of lived experience’. We worked with 8 people with lived experience to prepare for the session, inform members about IMB’s inner working and provide feedback on monitoring reports from IMB. This was the first session of its kind and led to key commitments from the IMB to increase the visibility of IMB members in detention and make changes to their feedback mechanisms.

Internally, in October 2023 we introduced an innovative co-leadership structure within AVID, showing our willingness to match our words with concrete actions. Our Co-Director for Policy and Influencing has worked at AVID for seven years and has experienced the harsh realities of detention first hand. This change has put us in a better position to take forward our new strategy in the face of detention expansion.

Financial review

We have changed our financial year from the calendar year to March-April. Therefore, this reporting period runs from January 2023 – 5 April 2024.

At the end of this reporting period, we had made a deficit and our reserves were lower than we hoped going into the next period. This is due to the competitive fundraising climate and the fact we were transitioning away from long-standing funders as well as several applications for which we reached the final stage.

We are primarily reliant on trusts and foundations as a funding source. Foundations often want to fund an organisation for a time limited period therefore we are regularly needing to look for new supporters. This also leaves us vulnerable if an anticipated, prospect fund does not come through. With the length of funding deadlines and processes we need to be organised and efficient in applications. Currently our fundraising is led by our Co-Director for Membership and Operations and we do not have a separate fundraising function.

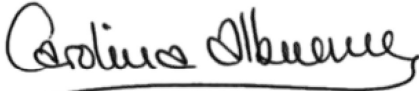
We have been able to act on the feedback from unsuccessful funding applications which was that funders wanted to see a more developed theory of change. At the beginning of 2023, we finalised our strategic framework, our objectives and intended impact. We received consultancy support on our monitoring, learning and evaluation framework. This has enabled us to attract new funders. Further, we plan to take steps to diversify our income focusing on increasing individual giving. This will be supported by a programme of digital development including a new website in addition to a fundraising campaign for our thirty-year anniversary.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

The charity's policy on reserves

We allocate three months running costs to our reserves as well as the cost for redundancy payments. Our reserves currently reflect the amount in our reserves policy. This is reviewed annually, or when a new staff member is recruited or other significant change to our financial position.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed  Date 20/01/2025
Carolina Albuerne Rodriguez, Trustee

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of
Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
for the period 1st January 2023 to 5th April 2024**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees (the charity) for the period 1st January 2023 to 5th April 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

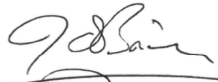
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed  Date 21/01/2025
John O'Brien MSc, FCIE
Employee of Community Accounting Plus


Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
Receipts & payments account
for the period 1st January 2023 to 5th April 2024

2022			Unrestricted	Restricted	2024
Total		Note	Funds	Funds	Total
Funds			£	£	Funds
£			£	£	£
	Receipts				
140177	Grants & donations	2	174851	14550	189401
1328	Membership		1692	-	1692
-	Conference		300	-	300
-	Workshops		1464	-	1464
82	Bank interest		241	-	241
<u>141587</u>	Total receipts		<u>178548</u>	<u>14550</u>	<u>193098</u>
	Payments				
71818	Staff costs	3	156392	10998	167390
4878	Premises & running costs	4	17670	10772	28442
2693	Governance costs	5	5144	-	5144
2674	Direct charitable expenditure	6	16366	192	16558
<u>82063</u>	Total payments		<u>195572</u>	<u>21962</u>	<u>217534</u>
59524	Net receipts/(payments)		(17024)	(7412)	(24436)
46604	Cash funds at start of this period		91977	14151	106128
<u>106128</u>	Cash funds at end of this period		<u>74953</u>	<u>6739</u>	<u>81692</u>

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
Statement of assets and liabilities
at 5th April 2024

2022		Note	2024
£	Cash assets		£
106128	Bank accounts		81692
<u>106128</u>			<u>81692</u>
Other monetary assets			
278	Debtors	7	1942
<u>278</u>			<u>1942</u>
Assets retained for the charity's own use			
2 x laptops, purchased April 2021, cost £1,098			
General equipment.			
Liabilities			
(6009)	Creditors	8	(4464)
<u>(6009)</u>			<u>(4464)</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed  Dated 20/01/2025
Hannah Cooper, Trustee

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
Notes to the accounts
for the period 1st January 2023 to 5th April 2024

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Usually, cash received and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand.

2. Grants & donations

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
NLCF Awards for All	-	9550	9550
Corporate donations	600	-	600
Arhag Housing Foundation	-	1500	1500
Refugee Action	2200	-	2200
Craignish Trust	5000	-	5000
Donations	11051	-	11051
Fulmer Charitable Trust	2000	-	2000
Hillcote Trust	5000	-	5000
Cloud Artisans Nominet Give Hub	-	3500	3500
P Hamlyn Foundation	126000	-	126000
Swan Mountain Trust	3000	-	3000
Tudor Trust	20000	-	20000
Total	<u>174851</u>	<u>14550</u>	<u>189401</u>

3. Staff costs

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Salaries, NI & pension	150826	10998	161824
Staff costs	5237	-	5237
Recruitment	329	-	329
	<u>156392</u>	<u>10998</u>	<u>167390</u>

4. Premises and running costs

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Bank charges	150	-	150
Premises and running costs	-	280	280
Office equipment & running costs	16885	10492	27377
Rent & rates	635	-	635
	<u>17670</u>	<u>10772</u>	<u>28442</u>

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

5. Governance costs

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Accountancy	1758	-	1758
Consultancy	1182	-	1182
Insurances	1005	-	1005
Trustee expenses & training	790	-	790
Legal & Professional fees	409	-	409
	5144	-	5144

6. Direct Charitable Expenditure

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Lived experience	1695	50	1745
Members activities	11142	-	11142
Network events & meetings	3368	142	3510
Training delivery	68	-	68
Volunteer expenses	93	-	93
	16366	192	16558

7. Debtors

	£
Prepayment: Dropbox	40
Fees receivable	1902
	1942

8. Creditors

	£
Professional fees	1008
Wages, NI & Pension	3401
Payroll fees	55
	4464

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

9. Funds analysis

	Opening balance £	Receipts £	(Payments) £	Closing balance £
Restricted funds				
Animation project	-	9550	(2811)	6739
Training and membership co-ordinator	7471	-	(7471)	-
Digital transformation	6680	-	(6680)	-
Handbook fund	-	1500	(1500)	-
Website development	-	3500	(3500)	-
	<u>14151</u>	<u>14550</u>	<u>(21962)</u>	<u>6739</u>
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	91977	178548	(195572)	74953
	<u>91977</u>	<u>178548</u>	<u>(195572)</u>	<u>74953</u>

Animation project – funded by Awards for All for the development of an animation on detention and related outreach.

Craignish Trust for Training and Membership Co-ordinator. We secured funding to partially fund the salary of our Membership and Training Co-ordinator. The role of the Membership and Training Co-ordinator is to develop, support and strengthen the AVID network of volunteer visitor groups. Activities include acting as a key point of contact on visiting and volunteering in detention; coordinating the development and delivery of AVID's training on all aspects of immigration detention and coordination of AVID's membership support including our new online member's area, handbook and discussion forum.

Esmee Fairbairn Foundation "Funding Plus" for Digital transformation. This funding is for the development of our new website, online handbook and online monitoring platform. We are working with digital partner, Common Knowledge, for this piece of work.

AVID Handbook – funded by Arhag Foundation for the development of content for the AVID Handbook for visitors to people in immigration detention

AVID website - Cloud Artisans Nominet's Give Hub for the development of a new website.

10. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in this period.

11. Trustees' remuneration

Trustees received no expenses, remuneration or benefits in this period.

ASSOCIATION OF VISITORS TO IMMIGRATION DETAINEES

England & Wales - Charity number 1156709

Accounts

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
(Registered charity, number 1156709)
Financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022

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9	Statement of assets & liabilities
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**Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

Full name Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Other names by which the charity is known AVID

Registered charity number 1156709

Organisation type Charitable incorporated organisation

Principal address

27-31 Carlton Road, Nottingham, NG3 2DG

Trustees

Carolina Albuerne Rodriguez, Chair
Jayne Butler, Co-chair, until 12/10/22
Michael Darko
Thomas Nunn

Elizabeth Flint
Anne Hudson, Treasurer
Adam Spray, from 15/12/22
Harbi Jama, from 15/12/22

Independent examiner

John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus, Units 1 & 2, North West,
41 Talbot Street, Nottingham, NG1 5GL

Governance and management

The charity is operated under the rules of its constitution adopted 15 April 2014 and was last amended in 2017.

Trustees are recruited through a recruitment process - job descriptions are advertised externally and applicants are selected by Trustees by interview. Trustees are elected at the AGM. The AVID Trustees may in addition appoint co-opted members. However no-one may be appointed as a co-opted member if, as a result, more than one third of the members of the AVID Trustees would be co-opted members.

Objectives and activities

AVID aims to address the isolation and injustice of immigration detention in the UK. We do this by supporting, strengthening and promoting volunteer visiting nationally and working towards positive change for all people in detention.

We have three key objectives:

1. We strengthen and grow our community of solidarity with people affected by detention
2. We influence reform and detention policy and practise
3. We raise awareness of the realities of detention nationally

Established in 1994, AVID has built a strong platform and source of infrastructure support for visitor groups across the UK. Our 14 members, representing over 500 volunteer visitors, are diverse and dynamic. Some are registered charities with paid staff, others have a non-hierarchical structure or are volunteer led. The support provided by AVID - including 1:1 guidance, advocacy and training - has enabled our members to provide vital emotional and

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

practical support to people who are detained. We have members who visit inside every detention centre in the UK, as well as in some prisons.

AVID is uniquely placed to build connections between individuals who are detained, communities, and the system, to work towards positive change for people in detention and meaningful reform. We have a strong track record of:

1. Building communities of solidarity with people affected by detention

AVID builds communities of support, fostering a sense of solidarity amongst our members and with people in detention by providing advice, advocacy, training, capacity building and a network of expertise. Our trainings reach an average of 200 volunteers a year; our advocacy has been vital to maintaining visitor access and, members of our network benefit from facilitated peer support from visitor's groups across the UK.

2. Influencing reform and detention policy in practice

We use our position of having oversight in every detention centre and some prisons to produce an accurate picture of the realities of detention. We use this information to engage with the Home Office and other key stakeholders, respond to consultations and work with wider networks to influence detention reform and challenge harmful practices.

3. Raising awareness of the realities of detention nationally

We increase public understanding of the harm caused by detention on individuals, families and communities. We engage with the public through social media and regular blogposts, produce information briefings and work with our visitor groups to engage with their local communities.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit

AVID was founded in 1994 in response to the increase in numbers held in immigration detention, and to the feedback from people supporting those detained in their local communities. At that time, there were around 250 immigration detention spaces. In the year ending June 2022, 24,4002 people entered detention. This does not include people who are held in "quasi-detention" facilities such as Napier Barracks. The government's stated purpose of detention is for removal and, by law, it should be used sparingly and for the shortest period possible. Despite this, detention has historically proven to be ineffective in facilitating removal. Last year the picture was particularly stark with only 14% of those detained being removed from the UK. This has coincided with an increased use of detention for asylum seekers who made up 80% of the detention population last year.

Immigration detention, the threat of detention, and the aftermath of detention, are all points of extreme crisis in a person's immigration journey. The harm caused by detention is well-documented through the testimonies of people who have been detained, in research and by clinical professional bodies. In particular, the fact that detention in the UK is indefinite causes immense trauma. Individuals have their autonomy stripped, are transported around the detention state and have no knowledge of when they will be released. It has been described by people detained as "mental torture".

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Despite this, the government have made clear their intention to increase the use of detention, including plans to re-open the previously closed Campsfield House immigration removal centre (IRC) and Haslar IRC. More extreme measures are being used to meet the government's deterrent agenda with the proposal to send people seeking asylum to Rwanda causing fear and devastation.

Our history of working with local communities, and long-standing volunteers, has shown us that there is the need and possibility of a different approach to immigration. We stand with our members and others in the national and international community to advocate for engagement over enforcement, humanity not oppression.

Our activities reduce the harm caused by detention by supporting visitors to provide vital befriending advice and combat the isolation in detention. We also support visitors with the information they need so that people who are detained can access services such as healthcare and legal advice they need. We bring public and government awareness to the issues of detention to advocate for a more compassionate immigration system. Our activities are also important to local communities who provide visiting support and want to advocate for a system that welcomes asylum seekers and people from a migrant background. The platform that we provide gives a way for them to do this and be part of a wider movement.

Summary of the main achievements during the period

Member Support:

"One of the underlying things I love about (the network) is just the sense of solidarity among the group, and the generosity of sharing. And the rapidity of sharing! I found that really nourishing and helps you keep going because you think there are so many people out there with such incredible experience and knowledge, and so ready to share it." (AVID Member)

Following the pandemic, and increase in online activities, we prioritised in-person visits to our members, travelling to nearly all of our members from Scotland to Oxford as well as groups in-between. This has been vital to forming new connections and informing our understanding as we continue to build and strengthen our network. We shared in the achievements of our members supporting them at AGM's, joining awareness raising sessions such as GDWG's Refugee Tales walks and promoting their work through our social media network and newsletter.

This year, we continued to offer our members a space to share, learn and reflect through our regular member calls. These began during the pandemic and have now become a regular feature of our network. We ran fortnightly online calls for our members, rotating a general call for members to provide updates, share challenges and bring concerns to the group and "Deep Dive" sessions to explore topics in more depth. Deep Dive sessions included detention monitoring and Independent Monitoring Boards, and volunteer recruitment and retention.

We further developed and delivered our core training, which consists of three modules on visiting support to people in detention, to 30 new volunteers recruited by our members. We also offered training to the AVID network from external facilitators on the implications of the Nationality and Borders Act for people in detention (attended by 29 people) and on supporting women in detention, run by Women for Refugee Women (attended by 16 people).

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

We supported new and developing visitor groups with more intensive 1:1 support. Durham Visitors Group was established towards the end of 2021 to support women who are detained in Derwentside. We advocated for the group to have visiting access and have represented the group at meetings with the centre management in Derwentside to promote referrals. We recruited seven new volunteers – including a number of volunteers with varying language skills - providing them with core training. The group is now well established, and we are working towards a regular visiting slot and a structure so that the group, which is purely voluntary, is able to co-ordinate its day-to-day activities without the support of AVID. Morton Hall Visitors Group have also experienced a period of transition. Following the closure of Morton Hall IRC, where they previously visited, a foreign national prison and residential short-term holding facility have opened in its place. We have supported the team, which consists of one staff member and a team of volunteers, to recruit a new Chair to their trustee board and prepare for visiting in these different settings.

Policy and Advocacy:

The strength of AVID members lies not only in the direct support which they provide to people in detention, but in their collective voice as witnesses to the realities of immigration detention.

We have used the on-the-ground knowledge of our members to respond to political challenges by connecting our collective voice to other partners in the sector. When we first became aware of people being issued with notices of intent to be deported to Rwanda, we worked with Care4Calais to ensure people had the legal advice necessary to challenge these notices. We worked with our existing member, Asylum Welcome, and previous members, Haslar Visitors Group, to co-ordinate responses to the government's announcement to re-open Campsfield and Haslar. We brought together groups local to Haslar, regional allies and national partners to discuss resistance to Haslar. This resulted in engagement with local councillors and members of parliament, local media and connections being made with the wider movement. We have continued as an active member of Detention Forum, a coalition of organisations who are working together to end detention. We supported them to write policy papers on short-term holding facilities and on the use of prison detention. We also continued as active members of the National Asylum Stakeholder Forum (NASF) Detention sub-group which we used to raise awareness of the challenges that our members are seeing. This included seeking to address day-to-day issues faced by people in detention, such as not being able to access personal email accounts to contact family and friends, as well as areas for concern across the detention estate. We also engaged with Independent Monitoring Boards (IMBs) and His Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP). We joined the IMB forum meeting to advocate for local IMB's to work more closely with visitor groups and we collaborated with HMIP on upcoming inspections to highlight areas for closer review. Finally, we submitted evidence to parliamentary consultations, including The Joint Committee on Human Rights into the Government's policies and procedures relating to asylum seekers and the impact these have on their human rights.

With the extra capacity in the AVID team, we were able to build our online presence to nearly 7,000 twitter followers and we have high engagement with our analyses' of the government detention statistics.

Community Building and Network Transformation:

Following the pandemic, we took stock of what we had learnt as an organisation, our role and the role of our community. Central to this was developing a Member's Charter which sets out our shared values as a network. As a network connected by our shared activity of visiting, we

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

saw the need to build a shared understanding of why visiting is important and what our values are that underpin this work. We consolidated feedback from interviews with our members in 2021 on their values and brought our member groups together, in November 2022, at a convening held in London, to review and finalise our charter. Collectively, we interrogated our values and what we aspire to as a network.

During this same period, we hosted a series of online talks, titled Communities not Walls, with external speakers to facilitate discussion on our values, the nature of detention and the role that visitor groups play in bringing about an alternative vision for our communities. Nearly 100 participants joined us for the series during which we heard from speakers including Mary Bosworth on the forces of detention; Luke De Noronha on notions of innocence, deservingness and the criminalisation of migrant communities; Kolbassia Haoussou on lived-experience leadership and Dora Rebelo of solidarities in hostility.

This work has led to us being able to finalise our Members Charter and strengthened our ability to enter a new strategic period in 2023.

Financial review

We are delighted to have been awarded a grant under Paul Hamlyn's Shared Ground fund to go towards core costs over the next two years. This, in addition to the commitment from the Tudor Trust to funding for two years which continues into next year, puts us on a strong financial footing for 2023-4. Funding from Esmée Fairbairn Foundation's Funding Plus grant will support us to deliver on a digital transformation project and website development. We have been working with a pro-bono fundraising advisor from the immigration sector and have identified new trusts and foundations as potential prospects to whom we have begun applying.

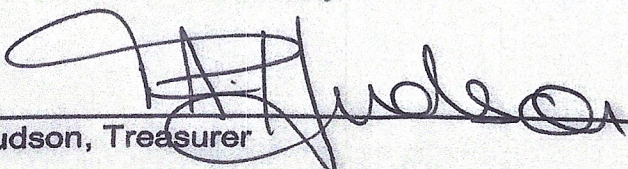
Our current financial position provides us with the opportunity to develop a fundraising strategy in order to diversify our funding streams. We have recently recruited a new trustee to our board, Harbi Jama, who has extensive experience in fundraising and corporate fundraising to support us with this process. We have also been able to build up our reserves during this period.

We are primarily reliant on trusts and foundations as a funding source. Foundations often want to fund an organisation for a time limited period therefore we are regularly needing to look for new supporters. This also leaves us vulnerable if an anticipated, prospect fund does not come through. With the length of funding deadlines and processes we need to be organised and efficient in applications. Currently our fundraising is led by our Director and we do not have a separate fundraising function.

The charity's policy on reserves

We allocate three months running costs to our reserves as well as the cost for redundancy payments. Our reserves currently reflect the amount in our reserves policy. This is reviewed annually, or when a new staff member is recruited or other significant change to our financial position.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed 
Anne Hudson, Treasurer

Date

29/8/23

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of
Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

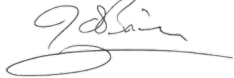
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed  _____ Date 30.08.2023
John O'Brien MSc, FCCA, FCIE
Employee of Community Accounting Plus

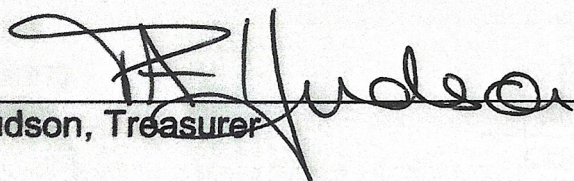
Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
Receipts & payments account
for the year ended 31 December 2022

2021			Unrestricted	Restricted	2022
Total		Note	Funds	Funds	Total
Funds			£	£	Funds
£					£
	Receipts				
84491	Grants & donations	2	123497	16680	140177
1608	Membership		1328	-	1328
600	Refund - rent deposit		-	-	-
-	Bank interest		82	-	82
<u>86699</u>	Total receipts		<u>124907</u>	<u>16680</u>	<u>141587</u>
	Payments				
128831	Staff costs	3	59009	12809	71818
11746	Premises & running costs	4	4438	440	4878
2584	Governance costs	5	2693	-	2693
358	Direct charitable expenditure	6	2326	348	2674
<u>143519</u>	Total payments		<u>68466</u>	<u>13597</u>	<u>82063</u>
(56820)	Net receipts/(payments)		56441	3083	59524
<u>103424</u>	Cash funds at start of this period		<u>35536</u>	<u>11068</u>	<u>46604</u>
<u>46604</u>	Cash funds at end of this period		<u>91977</u>	<u>14151</u>	<u>106128</u>

**Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
Statement of assets and liabilities
at 31 December 2022**

2021		Note	2022
£			£
<u>46604</u>	Cash assets		
<u>46604</u>	Bank accounts		<u>106128</u>
			<u>106128</u>
	Other monetary assets		
<u>4203</u>	Debtors	7	<u>278</u>
<u>4203</u>			<u>278</u>
	Assets retained for the charity's own use		
	2 x laptops, purchased April 2021, cost £1,098		
	General equipment.		
	Liabilities		
<u>(1306)</u>	Creditors	8	<u>(6009)</u>
<u>(1306)</u>			<u>(6009)</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed  Dated 29/8/23
 Anne Hudson, Treasurer

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2022

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Usually, cash received and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand.

2. Grants & donations

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Craignish Trust	-	10000	10000
Esmee Fairbairn	-	6680	6680
Fulmer Charitable Trust	8500	-	8500
Hillcote Trust	5000	-	5000
Other Donations	7997	-	7997
P Hamlyn Foundation	60000	-	60000
Persula Foundation	2000	-	2000
Tudor Trust	40000	-	40000
	<u>123497</u>	<u>16680</u>	<u>140177</u>

3. Staff costs

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Salaries, NI & pension	54009	11634	65643
Staff costs	538	-	538
Staff training	822	1175	1997
Recruitment	3640	-	3640
	<u>59009</u>	<u>12809</u>	<u>71818</u>

4. Premises and running costs

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Bank charges	162	-	162
Premises and running costs	104	-	104
Office equipment	236	430	666
Office running costs	2688	10	2698
Rent & rates	1248	-	1248
	<u>4438</u>	<u>440</u>	<u>4878</u>

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

5. Governance costs

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Accountancy	1364	-	1364
Development (org and strategy)	372	-	372
Insurances	785	-	785
Trustee training	172	-	172
	2693	-	2693

6. Direct Charitable Expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Coordinators conference	1018	-	1018
Group outreach	964	320	1284
Information & awareness raising	-	28	28
Training delivery	344	-	344
	2326	348	2674

7. Debtors

	£
Prepayment: Dropbox	134
Prepayment: Hotdesk	144
	278

8. Creditors

	£
Independent examination fee	906
Wages, NI & Pension	5021
Payroll fees	82
	6009

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

9. Funds analysis

	Opening balance £	Receipts £	(Payments) £	Closing balance £
Restricted funds				
Derwentside Visitors Group	9979	-	(9979)	-
Training and membership co-ordinator	-	10000	(2529)	7471
Digital transformation	-	6680	-	6680
Staff wellbeing	1089	-	(1089)	-
	<u>11068</u>	<u>16680</u>	<u>(13597)</u>	<u>14151</u>
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	<u>35536</u>	<u>124907</u>	<u>(68466)</u>	<u>91977</u>
	35536	124907	(68466)	91977

The restricted funds have been received from the following funders:

Craignish Trust for Training and Membership Co-ordinator. We secured funding to partially fund the salary of our Membership and Training Co-ordinator. The role of the Membership and Training Co-ordinator is to develop, support and strengthen the AVID network of volunteer visitor groups. Activities include acting as a key point of contact on visiting and volunteering in detention; coordinating the development and delivery of AVID's training on all aspects of immigration detention and coordination of AVID's membership support including our new online member's area, handbook and discussion forum.

Esmee Fairbairn Foundation "Funding Plus" for Digital transformation. This funding is for the development of our new website, online handbook and online monitoring platform. We are working with digital partner, Common Knowledge, for this piece of work.

10. Trustees' remuneration

Trustees received no expenses, remuneration or benefits in this period.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

11. Glossary of terms

Debtors: These are amounts owed to the charity, but not received in the accounting period.

Prepayments: These are services that the charity has paid for in advance, but not used during the accounting period.

Creditors: These are amounts owed by the charity, but not paid during the accounting period.

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

ASSOCIATION OF VISITORS TO IMMIGRATION DETAINEES

England & Wales - Charity number 1156709

Accounts

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
(Registered charity, number 1156709)
Financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

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**Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

Full name Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Other names by which the charity is known AVID

Registered charity number 1156709

Organisation type Charitable incorporated organisation

Principal address

27-31 Carlton Road, Nottingham, NG3 2DG

Trustees

Carolina Albuerne Rodriguez, Co-chair
Jayne Butler, Co-chair, from 04/02/21
Michael Darko
Thomas Nunn

Elizabeth Flint
Anne Hudson, Treasurer, from 22/01/21
Ciaran Price, Treasurer, until 15/02/21

Independent examiner

John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus, Units 1 & 2, North West,
41 Talbot Street, Nottingham, NG1 5GL

Governance and management

The charity is operated under the rules of its constitution adopted 15 April 2014.

Trustees are recruited following a recruitment process - job descriptions are advertised externally and applicants are selected by Trustees for interview. Trustees are elected at the AGM. The AVID Trustees may in addition appoint co-opted members but so that no-one may be appointed as a co-opted member if, as a result, more than one third of the members of the AVID Trustees would be co-opted members.

Objectives and activities

The formal objects of AVID are - exclusively the charitable relief of immigrants and refugees who are suffering hardship, distress or are in need, with particular reference, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, to those who are imprisoned or detained under immigration legislation in the United Kingdom.

AVID aims to address the isolation and injustice of immigration detention in the UK. We do this by supporting, strengthening and promoting volunteer visiting nationally and working towards positive change for all people in detention.

We have three key objectives:

1. We strengthen and grow our community of solidarity with people affected by detention;
2. We influence reform and detention policy and practise;
3. Raising awareness of the realities of detention nationally.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

We have 14 members who all offer visiting support in immigration detention centres. These are diverse organisations from small voluntary groups to large charities. We work with these organisations to support them to provide befriending support and practical advice. We use our position of representing visiting groups in every detention centre in the UK to provide an overview of the detention estate and practices and use this to influence reform.

Our activities include:

- Members Calls to share best practice;
- Training for volunteers on supporting people in detention;
- Deep Dive sessions to discuss shared challenges and solutions;
- Newsletter to keep our members up to date of relevant topics;
- Raise awareness of the impacts of detention on social media;
- 1:1 support for members to establish and continue visiting in detention;
- Contribute to policy networks including Home Office Stakeholder meetings and Detention Forum;
- Handbook for Visitors.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit

The harm caused by immigration detention is well-documented by the testimonies of people in detention, government and clinical professional bodies. As well as the human cost, there is the financial cost of a system that is failing by its own standards (70% of people in detention return to the community). Our activities reduce the harm caused by detention by supporting visitors to provide vital befriending advice and combat the isolation in detention. We also support visitors with the information they need so that people who are detained can access services such as healthcare and legal advice they need. We bring public and government awareness to the issues of detention to improve the detention system both in small steps (such as ensuring people in detention have access to phones) and as part of a wider discussion on ending detention because of the harm that it causes. We also benefit communities who provide visiting support and want to advocate for a system that welcomes asylum seekers and people from a migrant background. The platform that we provide gives a way for them to do this and be part of a wider movement.

Summary of the main achievements during the period

The pandemic has seen many changes in the way in which we – and our members – work. Our 14 members and the people they support in detention - many thousands at any one time - were hugely affected by the pandemic, which created great uncertainty inside detention and for those providing support. During lockdown all services inside detention were suspended, including visiting. Our members looked to us to lead and facilitate cross network conversations about how we could continue support for vulnerable people at this time. We developed a series of rapid response interventions including facilitating a weekly members call, bringing members together to share concerns, problem solve and offer mutual support. We identified members' needs and designed, developed, and implemented a range of tools to better support them - online training on remote visiting including telephone befriending; an interactive resource and signposting guide to post detention support; 'train the trainer' resources on wellbeing and self-care; and the co-ordination of several advocacy initiatives. This gave our members access to a tailored and

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

responsive programme to the COVID 19 situation that enabled them to adapt and respond to the immediacy of the environment.

This period was intense and challenging, forcing us to bring forward many of our longer-term development plans and make fuller use of online and digital technologies. This in turn engendered a much closer and more collaborative working dynamic between AVID and its members, despite the physical distance of lockdown. This period of turbulence was followed by a period of introspection and reflection. We considered our role, our members' needs, and our working practices within this new environment, and assessed how learnings from this period of change could be taken forward.

Over the past year, our members' calls – which we now host bi-monthly - have become a central part of our work. Hosting these online has enabled members across the UK to come together and update one another on access, visiting and support being provided to detainees. This has been vital as our members return to in person support given the lack of transparency across the detention estate and challenges with gaining access. We continue to work with members to advocate for their return to their pre-pandemic level of service.

A big focus of our work over the last year has been to support the development of Durham's visitors group at the new detention centre for women in Derwentside. Following training, development of best-practise processes and procedures and facilitation of links with other groups in the community, the group is now established and has begun offering a visiting service. The group are now taking referrals and have initial sessions with people in detention. We hold fortnightly meetings with the core organisers and ongoing 1:1 support as the group continues to establish itself.

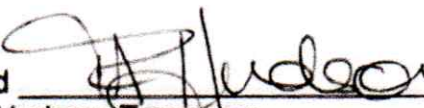
Financial review

We were able to secure funding through three of our ongoing funders to ensure that we are financially stable over the next year. This was however after a difficult financial period. We are developing a fundraising strategy that builds on our membership base and strong relationships with Trusts and Foundations to diversify our funds.

The charity's policy on reserves

We are currently working on our reserves policy as part of the review of financial policies and procedures. It is a priority for the trustees in the next year to work towards a sufficient amount of unrestricted reserves of three months and we will be reviewing all financial policies and procedures.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed 
Anne Hudson, Treasurer

Date 15/8/22

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees for the year ended 31 December 2021

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

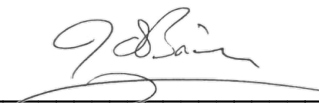
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed  Date 22/08/22
John O'Brien MSc, FCCA, FCIE
Employee of Community Accounting Plus

**Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
Receipts & payments account
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

2020			Unrestricted	Restricted	2021
Total		Note	Funds	Funds	Total
Funds			£	£	Funds
£					£
	Receipts				
139812	Grants & donations	2	55512	28979	84491
1359	Membership		1608	-	1608
-	Refund - rent deposit		600	-	600
4	Bank interest		-	-	-
<u>141175</u>	Total receipts		<u>57720</u>	<u>28979</u>	<u>86699</u>
	Payments				
78154	Staff costs	3	36216	92615	128831
10369	Premises & running costs	4	1557	10189	11746
2234	Governance costs	5	882	1702	2584
907	Direct charitable expenditure	6	175	183	358
-	Internal costs		(3000)	3000	-
<u>91664</u>	Total payments		<u>35830</u>	<u>107689</u>	<u>143519</u>
49511	Net receipts/(payments)		21890	(78710)	(56820)
53913	Cash funds at start of this period		13672	89752	103424
-	Transfers between funds		(26)	26	-
<u>103424</u>	Cash funds at end of this period		<u>35536</u>	<u>11068</u>	<u>46604</u>

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
Statement of assets and liabilities
at 31 December 2021

2020		Note	2021
£			£
<u>103424</u>	Cash assets		
<u>103424</u>	Bank accounts		<u>46604</u>
			<u>46604</u>
	Other monetary assets		
<u>2821</u>	Debtors	7	<u>4203</u>
<u>2821</u>			<u>4203</u>
	Assets retained for the charity's own use		
	2 x laptops, purchased April 2021, cost £1,098		
	General equipment.		
	Liabilities		
<u>(1387)</u>	Creditors	8	<u>(1306)</u>
<u>(1387)</u>			<u>(1306)</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed  Dated 15/8/22
 Anne Hudson, Treasurer

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2021

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Usually, cash received and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand.

2. Grants & donations

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
National Lottery Community Fund	-	9979	9979
Allen Lane Foundation	-	7500	7500
Refugee Action	1995	3000	4995
Craignish Trust	-	3000	3000
Tudor Trust	-	2000	2000
Noel Buxton Trust	-	2000	2000
Oakdale Trust	-	1500	1500
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	30000	-	30000
Donations	8117	-	8117
Hillcote Trust	5000	-	5000
Community of the Glorious Ascension	4000	-	4000
Fairness Foundation	3000	-	3000
Pat Newman Memorial Trust	1000	-	1000
Marsh Christian Trust	650	-	650
Fulmer Charitable Trust	750	-	750
Bergman Lehane Foundation	500	-	500
Anonymous donation	500	-	500
	<u>55512</u>	<u>28979</u>	<u>84491</u>

3. Staff costs

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Salaries, NI & pension	35721	90401	126122
Staff costs	-	911	911
Staff training	-	1303	1303
Recruitment	495	-	495
	<u>36216</u>	<u>92615</u>	<u>128831</u>

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

4. Premises and running costs

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Bank charges	136	62	198
Development (organisational & strategy)	300	-	300
Office equipment	70	1818	1888
Office running costs	718	4278	4996
Rent & rates	333	4031	4364
	1557	10189	11746

5. Governance costs

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Accountancy & payroll	163	1702	1865
Trustees expenses & insurance	719	-	719
	882	1702	2584

6. Direct Charitable Expenditure

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Group outreach	25	33	58
Policy & advocacy	150	150	300
	175	183	358

7. Debtors

	£
HMRC (NI)	2182
HMRC - Gift aid claims	613
Prepayment: Insurance	504
Prepayment: Office running costs	507
Prepayment: Policy & advocacy	150
Prepayment: Payroll fees	72
Prepayment: Staff costs	175
	4203

8. Creditors

	£
Independent examination fee	864
Wages, NI & Pension	406
Payroll fees	36
	1306

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

9. Funds analysis

	Opening balance £	Receipts £	(Payments) £	Transfers £	Closing balance £
Restricted funds					
Core costs & extra support	22716	-	(22714)	(2)	-
Organisational development & strategy support	365	-	(365)	-	-
Directors salary & core costs	36886	-	(36887)	1	-
Coronavirus reponse	29785	-	(29812)	27	-
Training	-	6500	(6500)	-	-
Explore Programme - service adaptation	-	3000	(3000)	-	-
Staff wellbeing	-	2000	(911)	-	1089
Core costs	-	7500	(7500)	-	-
Derwentside Visitors Group	-	9979	-	-	9979
	89752	28979	(107689)	26	11068
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	13672	57720	(35830)	(26)	35536
	13672	57720	(35830)	(26)	35536

The transfers from the General fund to the Directors salary & core costs fund and the Coronavirus response funds are to cover the deficits on these activities. The transfer from the Core costs & extra support fund to the General fund related to activities which have ceased, and the release of any restrictions on the use of these funds.

The restricted funds have been received from the following funders:

Core costs & extra support – Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
 Organisational development & strategy support - Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
 Directors salary & core costs – The Tudor Trust
 Coronavirus response – National Lottery Community Fund
 Training – Craginsh Trust, Noel Buxton Trust and Oakdale Trust
 Explore Programme – Refugee Action
 Staff wellbeing – The Tudor Trust
 Core costs – Allen Lane Foundation
 Derwentside Visitors Group – National Lottery Community Fund

10. Trustees' remuneration

Trustees received no expenses, remuneration or benefits in this period.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

11. Glossary of terms

Debtors: These are amounts owed to the charity, but not received in the accounting period.

Prepayments: These are services that the charity has paid for in advance, but not used during the accounting period.

Creditors: These are amounts owed by the charity, but not paid during the accounting period.

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

ASSOCIATION OF VISITORS TO IMMIGRATION DETAINEES

England & Wales - Charity number 1156709

Accounts

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
(Registered charity, number 1156709)
Financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2020

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**Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 December 2020**

Full name Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Other names by which the charity is known AVID

Registered charity number 1156709

Organisation type Charitable incorporated organisation

Principal address

115 Mare Street
London
E8 4RU

Trustees

Elizabeth Flint, Chair

Ciaran Price, Treasurer

Carolina Albuerne Rodriguez

Michael Darko

Thomas Nunn, from 23/05/20

Independent examiner

John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus, Units 1 & 2, North West,
41 Talbot Street, Nottingham, NG1 5GL

Structure, governance and management

Established in 1994, the Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees (AVID) became a registered charity in 1997 and a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) in 2014. AVID is registered in England, number 1156709, and is governed by a written constitution. It has a board of between three and twelve trustees, elected by the membership. From the trustees, the membership elects a Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary at the AGM. Trustees are appointed for a three-year period; after which time they can be re-appointed for two further terms. Trustees cannot be re-appointed for a further term until a 12-month period has elapsed. Vacancies among the trustees may be filled by co-option. Those co-opted must retire at the next AGM, but are eligible for election as trustees.

Trustee recruitment and induction

Prospective board members are invited to submit a CV and a letter describing why they wish to serve as trustees. They are interviewed by the Director and one or two trustees, usually including the Chair. If appointed or co-opted, they will receive induction and training from the Director and Chair. The board recognises the value of trustee training, and organises periodic events covering governance issues.

AVID's Board of Trustees is responsible for the governance of the charity. The Board meets quarterly at the organisation's office in London. In 2020, there was one sub-committee, covering Finance and Fundraising. A second sub-committee covering human resources was set up in the latter part of the year. Management is delegated to the organisation's Director, Ali McGinley.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

This year, Elizabeth Flint was elected as Chair, and Ciaran Price as Treasurer, at the AGM. Tom Nunn joined the Board in May 2020.

Membership

AVID is a membership organisation, with both organisational and individual members from around the UK, each of whom has voting rights. In 2020, AVID had 13 individual members and 15 organisational members. Organisational members were:

- Asylum Welcome (HMP Huntercombe);
- Befriending and Support Team for Foreign Nationals in HMP Wandsworth (BEST);
- Detention Action (Colnbrook, Harmondsworth IRCs, Morton Hall IRC, and London prisons);
- Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group (Brook House IRC, Tinsley House IRC);
- Jesuit Refugee Service UK (Colnbrook and Harmondsworth IRCs);
- Larne House Visitors Group (Larne House STHF);
- Lewes Organisation in Support of Refugees & Asylum Seekers (LOSRAS) (HMP Lewes);
- Manchester Immigration Detainee Support Team (Manchester Airport STHF and HMP Manchester);
- Morton Hall Detainee Visitors Group (Morton Hall IRC);
- Scottish Detainee Visitors (Dungavel IRC);
- SOAS Detainee Support (Colnbrook IRC, Harmondsworth IRC, Yarl's Wood IRC, and London prisons);
- Waging Peace (Sudanese Visitors Group);
- Yarl's Wood Befrienders (Yarl's Wood IRC).

Partnerships

AVID works in partnership in furtherance of its charitable objects. AVID is a founding member of the Detention Forum. AVID chairs the Detention Monitoring Group, a monthly meeting of visitors groups and other organisations working in detention and on issues relating to detention. The group meets in East London.

In addition, AVID is a member of the Immigration Law Practitioners Association (ILPA), Refugee Children's Consortium, the Small Charities Coalition, CLINKS, the International Detention Coalition, and the National Council of Voluntary Organisations (NCVO).

Objectives and activities

The Charity's objectives are the charitable relief of immigrants and refugees who are suffering hardship, distress or who are in need, with particular reference, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, to those who are imprisoned or detained under immigration legislation in the UK, whether in detention centres, holding centres, prisons or police stations.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

AVID's strategic aims for the period 2019 to 2021 reflect our commitment to our membership. Our work is directly influenced by the support requirements of our members and the people they support in detention. As such, a large proportion of our work is reactive and based on changing needs and priorities, as we adapt to an ever-changing policy context. We balance this reactive work with proactive work in pursuit of our strategic aims.

Mission statement

AVID builds communities that support, inform and challenge, working to reduce the human and social cost of detention.

Strategic Directions 2019 – 2021

- To increase understanding of the harm caused by detention on individuals, families and communities;
- To strengthen and grow our community of solidarity and friendship with people affected by detention;
- To influence reform of detention policy and practice.

Activities and main achievements during the period

In immigration detention, 2020 was characterised by increased isolation for people detained during the COVID 19 pandemic, reduced in-person access for volunteer groups providing support inside detention centres and a shocking increase in the proportion of people detained in prisons.

As public health guidance and lockdown measures began to be rolled out nationally, it was clear that practices such as social distancing would be almost impossible to implement safely in custodial settings. Detention centres and prisons discontinued in-person visiting at the start of lockdown, but the distress of those detained was only growing. AVID adapted quickly in order to support organisations in our network to continue visiting people remotely. The resulting work by volunteers across the country meant hundreds of people in detention were supported remotely throughout 2020.

Meanwhile, following legal action, the government began releasing people from detention at an unprecedented rate without adequate support post-release. Organisations in our network began expanding post-detention support services and AVID designed new signposting resources and introduced peer support sessions to help the network meet these new challenges.

Overall in 2020, 14,773 people entered detention, representing a 40% decrease since 2019. In June, the number of people held in detention centres fell to just 330, the lowest point in the last decade. By late summer, however, the number of people entering detention began to rise again steadily. Moreover, new forms of quasi-detention also emerged as the government began warehousing people seeking asylum in ex-military sites and other forms of institutional accommodation as opposed to asylum housing. Together with new partners we worked in coalition to raise awareness of these new forms of injustice and their repetition of the worst harms of detention.

In another worrying shift, by the end of 2020, the proportion of people detained in prison represented 57% of the people detained under immigration powers in the UK overall. This shocking figure shows just how far the balance has tipped in the UK towards detention in prison becoming the norm, rather than an exception, reaffirming prison detention as a central issue of concern for our network.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Against this backdrop, our work continued in pursuit of our strategic objectives as follows:

Strategic Area one: increasing understanding of the harm caused by detention on individuals, families and communities

- This year, in response to the amplified risk posed by Covid-19 to people in detention settings, we partnered with our sister organisation in the USA, *Freedom for Immigrants* to **publish an open letter** calling for both UK and US governments to release everyone held in detention into community-based accommodation immediately. It was signed by over 47 visitor groups representing over 1,778 volunteers, and emphasised the similarities in the use of detention in both countries as well as both governments' woefully inadequate response to the risks posed by the pandemic in custodial settings;
- In November we held our key awareness-raising event of the year on the subject '**Double Punishment: immigration detention in prisons.**' More than sixty people attended, including campaigners, people with experience of detention and dozens of volunteers from 10 visitor groups across the UK. The aim was to share lessons learned from our members nationally, of whom an increasing number regularly visit people detained indefinitely in prisons post-sentence. We wanted to start a larger conversation about the increased barriers faced by people detained in prisons when trying to access formal and information support;
- We ran two highly successful digital awareness-raising campaigns to engage new supporters and increase understanding of the human cost of detention. Our first **Covid-19 lockdown appeal** helped us highlight the isolation of people detained in lockdown and raise vital funds in a time of crisis. Then in December our second campaign focussed on sharing stories of solidarity and the power of building human connections across the walls of detention. During this '**Human to Human Campaign**' we saw a huge uptick in engagement as our social media posts and long form blogs, together telling a story of the need for visiting as well as detention reform, were shared extensively by partners and new supporters;
- We won **national newspaper coverage** of our joint letter signed by more than 60 community organisations to the Immigration Minister about the inhumane use of ex-military barracks to 'house' people seeking asylum;
- We redoubled our efforts to **ensure our website is a hub of relevant information** for people in detention, or supporting someone detained. We also published several thought-leading blog pieces exploring the human impact of detention, visiting and other varied policy topics. On our blog, guest contributors from across our network wrote from experience about everything from the extreme isolation faced by people 'locked up' during lockdown to the challenges of setting up a new visitor group. Meanwhile, AVID staff provided statistical digests and simple summaries of key policy publications. As a result, our website is being used more often, and we saw a 23% increase in visits compared to 2019;
- Throughout the year, we also trained and supported a team of talented social media volunteers who helped to shape our social media voice and **establish AVID as a regular, reliable online presence** commenting on major issues. Our total number of social media followers surpassed 6,500 by the end of 2020;
- Finally, we **refreshed our quarterly newsletter format**, with dedicated space for 'volunteer voices' from across the network alongside key updates about conditions in detention, statistics and policy changes. These bulletins now reach an audience of more than 450 partners, volunteers and members of the public.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

Strategic Area two: strengthening and growing our community of solidarity and friendship with people affected by detention

- Since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic we've been developing different support methodologies to ensure our members have access to information, training and support. A key feature of our response was to set up **regular peer support video calls for volunteer coordinators** to share best practice and pool information as the pandemic unfolded. The sessions acted as a support system for coordinators while providing opportunities to find out more from each other about the current situation in each centre and share ideas about alternative ways to support people held throughout the pandemic. We split the calls into both covering members' local updates on visiting access and thematic questions such as 'setting up Skype drop-ins' or 'what to do when numbers or referrals are low due to lockdown';
- In 2020 we made the transition to offering a **digital training programme** including a range of topical external trainings, developed and delivered in partnership with thematic experts, as well as new and established in-house training modules. The transition to online delivery facilitated new training partnerships and regular attendance from our geographically dispersed network meaning we were able to deliver more bespoke trainings to our members than ever before. In total, we trained 161 people including coordinators of 13 organisations who between them oversee some 550 volunteers;
- **Seven training sessions** were delivered in 2020 including 'Supporting LGBTQI+ people in detention' with UKLGIG (UK Lesbian and Gay Immigration Group); 'Talking to people with suicidal thoughts' with Samaritans; and 'Immigration Detention and the impact of EU transfer' with TACTIC. These specialist trainings were open to all visitors from our membership. We also developed and delivered new bespoke training modules for visitors in response to needs in our network, including 'Wellbeing and self-care for volunteer coordinators' and 'How to access DDA (Detention Duty Advice) lawyers in detention';
- We developed **several new training resources** to support our members in key emerging areas. In mid-2020 the Government briefly acknowledged the elevated risk of Covid-19 transmission in detention centres and released hundreds of people into the community without adequate support. Our member organisations were thrown into the deep end, due to people's need for continued support after their release. In response, we developed a new digital signposting and information toolkit mapping post-detention services across the UK. We also developed bespoke *Train the Trainer* resources to aid volunteer coordinators training their volunteers to transition visiting people on video calls or over the phone;
- Work was ongoing throughout the year to **maintain independent access** for local visitor groups to places of detention, enabling more people in detention to receive regular support. Alongside this we continued to work across a number of detention centres and short-term holding facilities to build and facilitate working relationships between our members and management teams at these facilities. This work is vital to ensure people detained are aware of volunteer support and that this support is delivered smoothly;
- In 2020 we continued our **programme of mentoring and coaching support** for group coordinators, working collaboratively on development plans to ensure our tailored support, advice and guidance remains relevant to each member group's goals. In the last year, this included countless group meetings and weekly one-to-one phone calls throughout lockdown to share expertise in remote visiting; volunteer recruitment; staffing recruitment; working with detention centre staff; casework input; and safeguarding;
- **Best practice resources, guidance and information sharing** continued to be a priority this year, working to consolidate the systems in place to ensure best practice is captured and learning is iterative. This included working to upskill coordinators and to strengthen

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

the sustainability of members through capacity building. This year, this included working with members to gather evidence and monitor conditions in detention in the context of the government's response to Covid-19;

- During the pandemic our **online discussion forum** for visitors came into its own with regular posts and information being shared from across the network. We estimated a 200% increase in traffic following the start of the pandemic and the increased need for accurate real-time information about what was happening to people in detention in this context. Members reported forming deeper horizontal relationships stemming from use of the forum combined with the newly introduced peer-support calls, increasing collaboration and signposting across the network.

Strategic Area three: influencing reform of detention policy and practice

- We have continued to address **national trends in immigration detention policy** by facilitating and nurturing coalitions and building effective partnerships within the AVID membership and beyond. This includes chairing regular forums such as the Detention Monitoring Group (below) alongside establishing ad hoc coalitions to encourage joint working and collaboration on key emerging trends. At the start of lockdown, for example, we consulted with members in our network in every detention centre in the UK to monitor health protection measures in different places of detention and highlight discrepancies. This led to us advocating, successfully, for the Home Office to publish its guidance on Covid-19 prevention in detention;
- The **Detention Monitoring Group's** regular meetings provide a safe and collaborative space for AVID members and other NGOs working inside detention centres and prisons. The group met five times this year, sharing information and working collaboratively on a range of issues including quality of legal aid provision particularly in prison detention; healthcare, case management and alternatives to detention. 15 organisations regularly attend these meetings, and work together on joint advocacy and sharing best practice;
- Having been a founding member of the **Detention Forum**, a broad membership network of civil society organisations and individuals campaigning to reform detention, we continued to contribute regularly to the development of the Forum's policy positions. We are also members of the Communications Strategic Working Group which aims to develop effective messaging on the need for detention reform for a range of parliamentary, civil society and public audiences;
- Policy engagement with the Home Office remained challenging throughout 2020. In addition to our bilateral advocacy meetings on behalf of our members, we continued to lobby collectively with partner NGOs at various **Government stakeholder forums**, including the detention sub group of the National Asylum Stakeholder Forum (NASF) which meets quarterly. In addition, this year our Director was invited to be part of the Strategic Engagement Group of the Community Engagement Pilots; the Home Office's community-based alternatives to detention pilots. We continued to push for transparency about how the pilots will be evaluated and how this evidence will be taken into consideration in future. We also consulted with the Home Office's Director of Detention and Escorting Services to discuss managed and safe returns for volunteers in detention following the easing of lockdown restrictions;
- AVID also pushed for greater transparency on the Home Office's work to address the disparities in treatment between prison and detention centres. As a result, regular meetings of the Home Office's '**Prison Parity**' project were set up, where the barriers accessing legal advice and support for people detained in prisons relative to detention centres was investigated. The Home Office met with AVID along with Medical Justice, BID and Detention Action. Alongside this work, we continued to monitor the detention of

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

people in prisons post sentence, regularly submitting requests via the Freedom of Information Act to establish where people are being held post sentence under immigration act powers. This information is not provided within official statistics, making it harder for support to be provided in specific prisons. We ensure this information is shared on our website;

- We continued to develop a relationship with the **UK's statutory monitoring bodies**, both HMIP (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons) and IMB (Independent Monitoring Boards). This year, we provided a briefing paper to HMIP with evidence on each detention centre in the UK ahead of their adapted 'scrutiny visits' which have replaced inspections during the pandemic. Following AVID's briefing, and further information we shared on behalf of members, HMIP confirmed that immigration detention was a priority for their inspection team during the Covid-19 crisis. Alongside this we continued to facilitate the input of our membership to scrutiny processes and designed an awareness raising session for an IMB training day focussed on strengthening relationships between the IMB and visitor groups to improve outcomes for people in detention;
- As in previous years, we were heavily involved in advocacy and negotiations on a national level to **maintain access and transparency for civil society groups** to places of detention. The Home Office made several ad hoc changes to the status of detention centres during the pandemic, and access for visitors both in-person and remotely was varied across the year and in different centres. Our work in this area has included monitoring changes in access provision, challenging attempts to dilute the independence of our membership groups working inside detention and pushing for transparency on decision making affecting the use or status of detention facilities across the UK.
- We continued to **work in partnership internationally**. Together with campaigner Mishka Pillay, who has lived experience of detention, our Director co-wrote an article entitled *No return to normal* for the International Detention Coalition highlighting the dangers and reduced use of detention in the UK during the pandemic and calling for the expansion of community-based alternatives going forward. AVID was also invited to present at an international symposium organised by Open Society Foundations about the approach of the UK government to Covid-19 from a detention perspective and outlining civil society responses.

Staffing updates

In 2020 we were delighted to receive funding from the National Lottery Community Fund to enable us to recruit two new members of staff, doubling our team from two to four. Fiona Ranford joined Gee Manoharan as Training and Membership Coordinator (job share) in September, and we welcomed Orla Gill as AVID's first Communications Officer in October. This year we were also ably assisted in our social media work by two volunteers, Thea Slotover and Rosie Burrell.

Finances and Reserves Policy

The board considers it prudent to maintain three month's running costs as reserves, where possible.

Funding

This was an exceptionally challenging year for AVID. Along with the rest of the voluntary sector we had to react quickly and work hard to meet our beneficiaries' needs in the context of the Covid pandemic. We are extremely grateful to our members, individual donors, and funders who continue to support us during this global crisis. Their generosity in a time of unprecedented uncertainty means that AVID is going into the next year in a strong position.

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

AVID continues to implement the findings of the Income Opportunity Review we undertook in 2019. In the summer of this year we were pleased to be able to expand our team despite the ongoing uncertainty around the pandemic, creating a new Communications Officer role. This is a core part of our strategy to strengthen our network, diversify our income streams, and build upon our individual supporter base.

We are extremely grateful for the generosity of the National Lottery Community Fund, the Tudor Trust, the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, the Charities Aid Foundation, and the Chillag Family Charitable Trust for their support this year. Without their support, and that of our individual donors and supporters, AVID could not have carried out its important role of supporting our members and helping those in immigration detention at this crucial time.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed Elizabeth Flint Date 24.07.21
Elizabeth Flint, Chair

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees for the year ended 31 December 2020

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

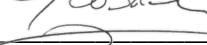
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed  _____ Date 26/07/2021
John O'Brien MSc, FCCA, FCIE
Employee of Community Accounting Plus

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
Statement of assets and liabilities
at 31 December 2020

2019		Note	2020
£	Cash assets		£
<u>53913</u>	Bank accounts		<u>103424</u>
<u>53913</u>			<u>103424</u>
	Other monetary assets		
<u>435</u>	Debtors	7	<u>2821</u>
<u>435</u>			<u>2821</u>
	Assets retained for the charity's own use		
	General equipment.		
	Liabilities		
<u>(2403)</u>	Creditors	8	<u>(1387)</u>
<u>(2403)</u>			<u>(1387)</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed *Ciaran Price* Dated 25 JULY 2021
 Ciaran Price, Treasurer

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2020

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Usually, cash received and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand.

2. Grants & donations

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
National Lottery Community Fund	-	50000	50000
Tudor Trust	-	45000	45000
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	27500	27500
Charities Aid Foundation	-	10000	10000
Chillag Family Charitable Trust	2000	-	2000
Donations	5312	-	5312
	<u>7312</u>	<u>132500</u>	<u>139812</u>

3. Staff costs

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Salaries, NI & pension	-	76450	76450
Staff costs	23	-	23
Staff training	-	119	119
Recruitment	456	1106	1562
	<u>479</u>	<u>77675</u>	<u>78154</u>

4. Premises and running costs

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Bank charges	35	85	120
Office equipment	-	170	170
Office running costs	768	2661	3429
Rent & rates	(729)	7379	6650
	<u>74</u>	<u>10295</u>	<u>10369</u>

5. Governance costs

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Accountancy & payroll	157	1182	1339
Trustees expenses & insurance	-	895	895
	<u>157</u>	<u>2077</u>	<u>2234</u>

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

6. Direct Charitable Expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Group outreach	-	80	80
Information & awareness raising	-	300	300
Policy & advocacy	-	184	184
Training delivery	-	343	343
	<u>-</u>	<u>907</u>	<u>907</u>

7. Debtors

	£
HMRC (NI)	2001
Prepayment: Insurance	470
Prepayment: Office running costs	288
Prepayment: Recruitment	62
	<u>2821</u>

8. Creditors

	£
Independent examination fee	864
Wages, NI & Pension	487
Payroll fees	36
	<u>1387</u>

Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees

9. Funds analysis

	Opening balance £	Receipts £	(Payments) £	Closing balance £
Restricted funds				
Training and Membership Coordinator (The Tudor Trust)	20000	-	(20000)	-
Core costs & extra support (Esmée Fairbairn Foundation)	25000	27500	(29784)	22716
Organisational development and strategy support (Esmée Fairbairn Foundation)	365	-	-	365
AVID training (Evan Cornish Foundation)	1109	-	(1109)	-
Group support / Outreach (Swan Mountain Trust)	1732	-	(1732)	-
Directors salary & core costs (The Tudor Trust)	-	45000	(8114)	36886
Coronavirus reponse (National Lottery Community Fund & Charities Aid Foundation)	-	60000	(30215)	29785
	<u>48206</u>	<u>132500</u>	<u>(90954)</u>	<u>89752</u>
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	<u>5707</u>	<u>8675</u>	<u>(710)</u>	<u>13672</u>
	<u>5707</u>	<u>8675</u>	<u>(710)</u>	<u>13672</u>

10. Trustees' remuneration

Trustees received no expenses, remuneration or benefits in this period.

11. Glossary of terms

Debtors: These are amounts owed to the charity, but not received in the accounting period.

Prepayments: These are services that the charity has paid for in advance, but not used during the accounting period.

Creditors: These are amounts owed by the charity, but not paid during the accounting period.

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