

HERTS FOR REFUGEES

England & Wales · Charity number 1167716

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2016-06-20

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

Contact

Address 178 Bishops Rise
Hatfield
Hertfordshire
AL10 9QY

Phone 07754209535

Email Info@hertsforrefugees.org

Website www.hertsforrefugees.org

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE:1. FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT TO RELIEVE AND ASSIST THE VICTIMS OF WAR, CONFLICT OR NATURAL DISASTER, THROUGHOUT EUROPE, IN PARTICULAR BY THE PROVISION OF VOLUNTEERS, FUNDS, FOOD, MEDICAL AID, ACCOMMODATION, ACCESS TO WATER AND SANITATION AND OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.2. THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF POVERTY OR FINANCIAL HARDSHIP IN PARTICULAR, BUT WITHOUT LIMITATION, BY PROVIDING PERSONS IN NEED WITH GRANTS OR MONEY OR BY PROVIDING OR PAYING FOR SERVICES, ITEMS OR FACILITIES.3. SUCH OTHER PURPOSES WHICH ARE CHARITABLE UNDER THE LAWS OF ENGLAND AND WALES AS THE TRUSTEES FROM TIME TO TIME DETERMINE. IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT LIMITED TO REFUGEES OF SYRIAN ORIGIN IN REFUGEE CAMPS IN FRANCE AND OTHER PARTS OF EUROPE.

Activities: We collect and deliver vital aid for refugees throughout Europe and send aid to the Middle East. We also organise fundraising in order to purchase aid and arrange volunteer trips to various refugee support organisations.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Bosnia And Herzegovina
- France
- Greece
- Iraq
- Lebanon
- Syria
- Yemen
- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£26,235	£14,861	-	-
2024-03-31	£26,980	£25,055	-	-
2023-03-31	£39,975	£57,960	-	-
2022-03-31	£40,081	£24,774	-	-
2021-03-31	£17,804	£12,188	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Susan Elaine Billington	Chair	2019-10-04
Angus Clark		2017-01-14
Kayleigh Thorpe		2023-10-11
Mark Anthony Lampert		2020-01-15
Salma Khanum		2021-03-15
Susannah Louise Ensor		2026-06-09

HERTS FOR REFUGEES

England & Wales - Charity number 1167716

Accounts



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st April 2024 Period start date To 31st March 2025 Period end date

Charity name: Herts for Refugees

Charity registration number:

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	We collect vital aid to support asylum seekers and refugees wherever there is need. We undertake fundraising activities to support these vulnerable people and to provide donations to grass roots organisations working on the ground with asylum seekers, primarily in France, Ukraine and neighbouring countries, Lebanon or wherever there is need
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Collection of items donated for asylum seekers and refugees (clothing, shoes, hygiene products, sleeping bags, tents and other items as required). Shipment of donated items to grass roots organisations.. Information sharing with local schools to support their fundraising and learning with regard to the refugees. Educational activities relating to the wider refugee situation globally. Festival salvage program: During the summer months, we work with large music festivals to recover some of the enormous amount of camping equipment that is abandoned after the events have ended. From May to August we collected from festivals across England and in September, we delivered around 5,000 tents and sleeping bags to partner organisations in northern France. The program is a major logistical challenge and requires us to work with festival organisers, partner organisations in France and the UK and local charities and support groups. We continue to build these relationships and we are now the

		largest organisation collecting from some of the festival sites. We rely heavily on volunteers to help collect the equipment with some events requiring over 140 people to do the work. We work hard to engage the local communities at each event which we see as a great opportunity to help not just refugees but also local groups and charities who benefit from collecting for their own needs while helping us. The impact on the environment is also significant as the thousands of items we collect would otherwise go to landfill or be incinerated. We estimate the number of refugees who benefit from the equipment we provide to be between 10,000 & 15,000. This is based on feedback from our partners who distribute the items. In winter, this aid can be life-saving. Volunteer trips: We make several trips to Calais throughout the year with volunteers to help them gain an understanding of the reality of the situation for displaced people in northern France. We work with partner organisations such as Refugee Community Kitchen, who provide hot food to people and the Calais Woodyard, who process, pack and supply firewood for warmth and cooking. We feel it's important for people to get a 'hands-on' experience as it provides the best way to understand the situation and be better able to help. The trips are very popular and we have many people returning multiple times.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Trustees have been reminded of and read the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
	Para 1.38	We continue to be a charity run by trustees & volunteers who take no salary.

Contribution made by volunteers		Our volunteers are an invaluable part of our team with a very large number helping at festival salvage each summer. We are also immensely grateful to the people who give up their time to go to Calais and Dunkirk to volunteer on the ground there. Our volunteers also contribute by: • Sharing and building awareness through social media • Helping at in person events • Collecting donations • Organising shipments to other countries • Developing and running fundraising events • Sorting donations prior to shipment • Accounts • Helping educate people on refugee issues at school assemblies
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	Despite challenging conditions due to the cost of living crisis, with reduced donations and volunteer numbers, we continued to provide our core services. • Expanded our festival salvage operation further, collecting more camping equipment that would otherwise have been disposed of. • Developed our relationship with Circular Camping to swap chairs and air beds collected at festivals for sleeping bags. This removes more 'waste' from festival sites and is mutually beneficial to both of our organisations. • The delivery of accumulated aid to our partner organisations in France required a 40 foot articulated truck & three 7.5 tonne trucks, one more than in previous years. It again formed the bulk of winter stock, without which, vulnerable people would be left without shelter or warmth in winter.

		• St Albans Cathedral again invited us to their Community Showcase event to bring our work to the attention of the local community. • We organised several volunteer trips to France where people could work with Refugee Community Kitchen and other support organisations to better understand the reality of life for refugees in northern France. It was another difficult year with an increasingly negative narrative around refugees in the media and from politicians. We continue to build on our efforts locally in schools to counter the negativity with facts and positive engagement. We believe this will be even more important going forward.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Opening balance: £10,558.81 Income during the year: £26,235.01 Spending during the year: £14,860.76 Closing balance: £21,933.06
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We retain funds in order to be able to respond to emergency requirements. We aim to keep a minimum of £5,000 in reserve.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Closing balance at the end of the financial year: £10,558.81. Well above the parameters as set out above.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Donations through JustGiving, Facebook, Paypal and directly to our bank account. Birthday fundraisers on Facebook. A small number of regular supporters pay nominal amounts via monthly Direct Debit. Fundraising activities – JustGiving campaigns, St Albans Cathedral - award from congregational giving fund.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Difficulties created by the departure from the European Union with regard to the shipment of aid to Europe continue to be problematic and expensive to overcome. The increasing cost of living crisis has impacted greatly on donations and volunteer availability. This also affects our partner organisations who we deliver to and depend on to distribute the aid we supply. Finding enough volunteer time to run social media sites, run campaigns, manage volunteers. The deliberate negative narrative surrounding refugees and asylum seekers is a growing threat that must be challenged. It impacts on every level, affecting donations and ability to deliver services.

Other		
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Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	CIO foundation as registered on 20th June 2016.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Discussion amongst trustees and noted in the trustee minutes that agreement had been reached.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The charity has a horizontal hierarchy. All strategic decisions are discussed and agreed by trustees. The charity collaborates with, and is part of, the Refugee Charity Network, which is a national network of similar charities. The aim is to pool resources and expertise and to increase awareness of the plight and needs of refugees and maximise effectiveness of fundraising and aid.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	N/A
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Herts for Refugees
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1167716
Charity's principal address	178 Bishops Rise Hatfield Herts AL10 9QY

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

		Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
	1	Angus Clark	CEO (day-to-day running of the charity)		
	2	Susan Billington	Chair of Trustees & Safeguarding Lead		
	3	Felicity Pike			
	4	Mark Lampert			
	5	Salma Khanum			
	6	Kayleigh Thorpe			
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Angus Clark - CEO, Susan Billington - Chair

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Susan Billington M.A. C.Q.S.W.

Angus Clark

Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

Chair, Board of Trustees

Chief Executive

Date 26th January 2026

Herts for Refugees - Income and Expense Statement to 31.03.25

	<u>Opening Balance 01.04.24</u>	<u>Closing balance 31.03.25</u>
Metro Bank	10,538.81	21,896.08
Paypal	20.00	36.98
Total Bank Balance	10,558.81	21,933.06
	<u>Movement in year</u>	<u>11,374.25</u>
Income		
Subscription	675.00	
Donation	8,510.56	
Campaign Donation	17,049.45	
Other Income	0.00	
Total Income		26,235.01
Expenses		
Gift	3,933.78	
Purchases	1,965.40	
Expenses	5,855.93	
Travel	1,757.94	
Training	0.00	
Rental	192.47	
Insurance	633.96	
Branded	55.48	
Website	0.00	
Marketing	235.00	
Just Giving	216.00	
Facebook	0.00	
Bank Charge	7.31	
Miscellaneous	7.49	
General Currency Conversion	0.00	
Total Expenses		14,860.76
	<u>Total Income over Expenses</u>	<u>11,374.25</u>
		(0.00)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Herts for Refugees (Charity number 1167716)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Herts for Refugees for the year ended 31 March 2025

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Charity, Herts for Refugees 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 material 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 applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.*

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:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E Russell', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Name: Elizabeth Russell (CIMA)

Address: Chouans Barn, Hawridge Lane, Bellingdon HP5 2XX

Date: 20.01.2026

HERTS FOR REFUGEES

England & Wales - Charity number 1167716

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 1st of April 2023 Period start date

To: 31st March 2024 Period end date

Charity name: Herts for Refugees

Charity registration number: 1167716

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	We collect vital aid to support asylum seekers and refugees wherever there is need. We undertake fundraising activities to support these vulnerable people and to provide donations to grass roots organisations working on the ground with asylum seekers, primarily in France, Ukraine and neighbouring countries, Lebanon or wherever there is need.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Collection of items donated for asylum seekers and refugees (clothing, shoes, hygiene products, sleeping bags, tents and other items as required). Shipment of donated items to grass roots organisations.. Information sharing with local schools to support their fundraising and learning with regard to the refugees. Educational activities relating to the wider refugee situation globally. Festival salvage program: During the summer months, we work with large music festivals to recover some of the enormous amount of camping equipment that is abandoned after the events have ended. From May to August we collected from festivals across England and in September, we delivered around 5,000 tents and sleeping bags to partner organisations in northern France. The program is a major logistical challenge and requires us to work with festival organisers, partner organisations in France and the UK and local charities and support groups. We continue to build these relationships and we are now the

		largest organisation collecting from some of the festival sites. We rely heavily on volunteers to help collect the equipment with some events requiring over 100 people to do the work. We work hard to engage the local communities at each event which we see as a great opportunity to help not just refugees but also local groups and charities who benefit from collecting for their own needs while helping us. The impact on the environment is also significant as the thousands of items we collect would otherwise go to landfill or be incinerated. We estimate the number of refugees who benefit from the equipment we provide to be between 10,000 & 15,000. This is based on feedback from our partners who distribute the items. In winter, this aid can be life-saving. Volunteer trips: We make several trips to Calais throughout the year with volunteers to help them gain an understanding of the reality of the situation for displaced people in northern France. We work with partner organisations such as Refugee Community Kitchen, who provide hot food to people and the Calais Woodyard, who process, pack and supply firewood for warmth and cooking. We feel it's important for people to get a 'hands-on' experience as it provides the best way to understand the situation and be better able to help. The trips are very popular and we have many people returning multiple times.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Trustees have been reminded of and read the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A

Contribution made by volunteers	• Para 1.38	We continue to be a charity run by trustees & volunteers who take no salary. Our volunteers are an invaluable part of our team with a very large number helping at festival salvage each summer. We are also immensely grateful to the people who give up their time to go to Calais and Dunkirk to volunteer on the ground there. Our volunteers also contribute by: • Sharing and building awareness through social media • Helping at in person events • Collecting donations • Organising shipments to other countries • Developing and running fundraising events • Sorting donations prior to shipment • Accounts • Helping educate people on refugee issues at school assemblies
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	Despite challenging conditions due to the cost of living crisis, with reduced donations and volunteer numbers, we continued to provide our core services. • Came to an agreement with GAIN UK to supply us with new training shoes in bulk for a nominal amount, enabling us to supply several refugee support organisations in the UK and France with hundreds of pairs of new shoes. • Expanded our festival salvage operation to Leeds festival for the first time and overall, collected 12.5 tonnes of camping equipment that would otherwise have been disposed of. The delivery to our partner organisations in France required a 40 foot articulated truck & two 7.5 tonne trucks. It was the largest single delivery ever received and formed

		the bulk of winter stock, without which, vulnerable people would be left without shelter or warmth in winter. • St Albans Cathedral invited us to their Community Showcase event to bring our work to the attention of the local community. • We paid for the delivery of two full articulated trucks of aid to Ukraine. • We collected two tonnes of gravy granules from a major UK food manufacturer. 250kg was delivered locally to a Foodbank who supports refugees, asylum seekers and local people in need in time for Christmas. The remainder was sent out to Ukraine. • We organised several volunteer trips to France where people could work with Refugee Community Kitchen and other support organisations to better understand the reality of life for refugees in northern France. It was a difficult year with an increasingly negative narrative around refugees in the media and from politicians. We continue to build on our efforts locally in schools to counter the negativity with facts and positive engagement. We believe this will be even more important going forward.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Opening balance: £8,634.33 Income during the year: £26,979.71 Spending during the year: £25,055.23 Closing balance: £10,558.81
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We retain funds in order to be able to respond to emergency requirements. We aim to keep a minimum of £5,000 in reserve.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Closing balance at the end of the financial year: £10,558.81. Well above the parameters as set out above.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Donations through JustGiving, Facebook, Paypal and directly to our bank account. Birthday fundraisers on Facebook. A small number of regular supporters pay nominal amounts via monthly Direct Debit. Fundraising activities – JustGiving campaigns, St Albans Cathedral - award from congregational giving fund.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Difficulties created by the departure from the European Union with regard to the shipment of aid to Europe continue to be problematic and expensive to overcome. The increasing cost of living crisis has impacted greatly on donations and volunteer availability. This also affects our partner organisations who we deliver to and depend on to distribute the aid we supply. Finding enough volunteer time to run social media sites, run campaigns, manage volunteers. The deliberate negative narrative surrounding refugees and asylum seekers is a growing threat that must be challenged. It

		impacts on every level, affecting donations and ability to deliver services.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	CIO foundation as registered on 20th June 2016.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Discussion amongst trustees and noted in the trustee minutes that agreement had been reached.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The charity has a horizontal hierarchy. All strategic decisions are discussed and agreed by trustees. The charity collaborates with, and is part of, the Refugee Charity Network, which is a national network of similar charities. The aim is to pool resources and expertise and to increase awareness of the plight and needs of refugees and maximise effectiveness of fundraising and aid.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	N/A
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Herts for Refugees
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1167716
Charity's principal address	178 Bishops Rise Hatfield Herts AL10 9QY

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

		Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
	1	Angus Clark	CEO (day-to-day running of the charity)		
	2	Susan Billington	Chair of Trustees & Safeguarding Lead		
	3	Felicity Pike			
	4	Mark Lampert			
	5	Salma Khanum			
	6	Helen Furse			
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

	Angus Clark
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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

 

Full name(s)

Susan Billington M.A. C.Q.S.W.	Angus Clark
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Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

Chair, Board of Trustees	Chief Executive
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Date

Herts for Refugees - Income and Expense Statement to 31.03.24

	<u>Opening Balance 01.04.23</u>	<u>Closing balance 31.03.24</u>
Metro Bank	8,535.11	10,538.81
Paypal	99.22	20.00
Total Bank Balance	8,634.33	10,558.81
	<u>Movement in year</u>	<u>1,924.48</u>
Income		
Subscription	1,057.00	
Donation	6,829.60	
Campaign Donation	19,078.11	
Other Income	15.00	
Total Income		26,979.71
Expenses		
Gift	14,404.87	
Purchases	115.62	
Expenses	7,555.22	
Travel	715.12	
Training	0.00	
Rental	142.64	
Insurance	647.94	
Branded	176.00	
Website	0.00	
Marketing	67.99	
Just Giving	216.00	
Facebook	10.00	
Bank Charge	89.23	
Miscellaneous	914.60	
General Currency Conversion	0.00	
Total Expenses		25,055.23
	<u>Total Income over Expenses</u>	<u>1,924.48</u>

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Herts for Refugees (Charity number 1167716)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Herts for Refugees for the year ended 31 March 2024

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Charity, Herts for Refugees 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 material 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 applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.*

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:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E Russell', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Name: Elizabeth Russell (CIMA)

Address: Chouans Barn, Hawridge Lane, Bellingdon HP5 2XX

Date: 21.01.2025

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From Period start date 1/4/22

To Period end date 31/3/23

Charity name: Herts for Refugees

Charity registration number: 1167716

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	We collect vital aid to support asylum seekers and refugees wherever there is need. We undertake fundraising activities to support these vulnerable people and to provide donations to grass roots organisations working on the ground with asylum seekers, primarily in France, Greece, Ukraine and neighbouring countries, Lebanon and Syria or wherever there is need.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Collection of items donated for asylum seekers and refugees (clothing, shoes, hygiene products, sleeping bags, tents and other items as required). Shipment of donated items to grass roots organisations. Information sharing with local schools to support their fundraising and learning with regard to the refugees. Educational activities relating to the wider refugee situation globally. Festival salvage program: During the summer months, we work with large music festivals to recover some of the enormous amounts of camping equipment that is abandoned after the events have ended. From May to August we collected from festivals across England and in September, we delivered around 5,000 tents and sleeping bags to partner organisations in northern France. The program is a major logistical challenge and requires us to work with festival organisers, partner organisations in France and the UK and local charities and support groups. We continue to build these relationships and we are now the

		largest organisation collecting from some of the festival sites. We rely heavily on volunteers to help collect the equipment with some events requiring over 100 people to do the work. We work hard to engage the local communities at each event; we see it as a great opportunity to help not just refugees but also local groups and charities who benefit from collecting for their own needs while helping us. The impact on the environment is also significant as the thousands of items we collect would otherwise go to landfill or be incinerated. We estimate the number of refugees who benefit from the equipment we provide to be between 10,000 & 15,000. This is based on feedback from our partners who distribute the items. In winter, this aid can be life-saving. Volunteer trips: We make several trips to Calais over the year with volunteers to help them gain an understanding of the reality of the situation for displaced people in northern France. We work with partner organisations such as Refugee Community Kitchen, who provide hot food to people and the Calais Woodyard, who process, pack and supply firewood for warmth and cooking. We feel it's important for people to get a 'hands-on' experience as it provides the best way to understand the situation and be better able to help. The trips are very popular and we have many people returning.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Trustees have been reminded of and read the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
	Para 1.38	

Contribution made by volunteers		We continue to be a charity run by trustees & volunteers who take no salary. Our volunteers are an invaluable part of our team with a very large number helping at festival salvage each summer. We are also immensely grateful to the people who give up their time to go to Calais and Dunkirk to volunteer on the ground there. Our volunteers also contribute by: • Sharing and building awareness through social media • Helping at online and in person events • Collecting donations • Organising shipments to other countries • Developing and running fundraising events • Sorting donations prior to shipment • Accounts • Helping educate people on refugee issues at school assemblies
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The beginning of the year continued as the previous one had ended, with our "Reach Out For Refugees" fundraising and awareness campaign going on to become our most successful ever. It raised over £30,000 which enabled us to fund a greater range of projects & organisations than we previously had as well as the ability to purchase and deliver more aid. We provided: • £7350 to Mobile Refugee Support who provide aid to refugees in Dunkirk. • £4000 to Roots who provide clean water and hygiene services in Dunkirk. • £350 to Project Play, who support children in northern France.

		• £2350 to Refugee Community Kitchen, who provide hot food in Calais & Dunkirk. • £2500 to No Name Kitchen who support refugees with food and hygiene products in Serbia. • £3000 to Collective Aid who provide clothing, food & hygiene to refugees in Serbia. • £10000 to forRefugees for their Big Give campaign, was doubled through match funding.They provide grants to over 300 organisations supporting refugees throughout Europe, including many of the same organisations we support ourselves. • We were also able to purchase: A new chainsaw for the Calais Woodyard, who provide firewood for warmth & cooking to refugees in and around Calais, France. • A bulk amount of teabags, donated to Refugee Community Kitchen • One thousand new blankets, for use by refugees in northern France - distributed by Mobile Refugee Support. The cumulative effect of these grants & purchases greatly improved the circumstances of refugees who benefited directly or indirectly from them. As evidenced by our partner organisations who received grants or distributed purchased aid, this support was potentially life saving over the coldest months and made a material difference to the comfort, security and well-being of refugees they interacted with.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	

Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Opening balance: £26,619.82 Income during the year: £39,974.80 Spending during the year: £57,960.29 Closing balance: £8,634.33
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We retain funds in order to be able to respond to emergency requirements. We aim to keep a minimum of £5,000 in reserve.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Closing balance at the end of the financial year: £8,634.33. Well above the parameters as set out above.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Donations through JustGiving, Facebook, Paypal and directly to our bank account. Birthday fundraisers on Facebook. A small number of regular supporters pay nominal amounts via monthly Direct Debit. Fundraising activities – JustGiving campaigns (Karim's Run for Refugees & Shelter From Salvage). St Albans Cathedral - award from congregational giving fund.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Difficulties created by the departure from the European Union with regard to the shipment of aid to Europe continue to be problematic and expensive to overcome. The increasing cost of living crisis has impacted greatly on donations and volunteer availability. Dependency on CEO (trustee) for logistics and day-to-day running of charity. Finding enough volunteer time to run social media sites, run campaigns, manage volunteers.
Other		

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Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	CIO foundation as registered on 20 th June 2016.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Discussion amongst trustees and noted in the trustee minutes that agreement had been reached.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The charity has a horizontal hierarchy. All strategic decisions are discussed and agreed by trustees. The charity collaborates with, and is part of, the Refugee Charity Network, which is a national network of similar charities. The aim is to pool resources and expertise and to increase awareness of the plight and needs of refugees and maximise effectiveness of fundraising and aid.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Herts for Refugees
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1167716

Charity's principal address	178 Bishops Rise Hatfield Herts AL10 9QY

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Angus Clark	CEO (day-to-day running of the charity)		
3	Felicity Pike	Chair		
4	Sue Billington	Safeguarding Lead		
5	Helen Furse			
6	Mark Lampert			
7	Salma Khanum			
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Felicity Pike

Angus Clark

Full name(s)

Felicity Pike

Angus Clark

Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

Chair, Board of Trustees

Chief Executive

Date

22nd January 2024

Herts for Refugees - Income and Expense Statement to 31.03.23

	<u>Opening Balance 01.04.22</u>	<u>Closing balance 31.03.23</u>
Metro Bank	17,358.23	8,535.11
Paypal	9,261.59	99.22
Total Bank Balance	26,619.82	8,634.33
	<u>Movement in year</u>	<u>(17,985.49)</u>
Income		
Subscription	624.00	
Donation	14,811.43	
Campaign Donation	23,753.61	
Other Income	785.76	
Total Income		39,974.80
Expenses		
Gift	40,187.50	
Purchases	7,212.32	
Expenses	5,831.52	
Travel	2,418.91	
Training	0.00	
Rental	132.96	
Insurance	656.47	
Branded	495.00	
Website	0.00	
Marketing	84.25	
Just Giving	216.00	
Facebook	250.00	
Bank Charge	105.79	
Miscellaneous	369.57	
General Currency Conversion	0.00	
Total Expenses		57,960.29
	<u>Total Income over Expenses</u>	<u>(17,985.49)</u>

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Herts for Refugees (Charity number 1167716)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Herts for Refugees for the year ended 31 March 2023

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Charity, Herts for Refugees 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 material 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 applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.*

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:

Name: Elizabeth Russell (CIMA)

Address: Chouans Barn, Hawridge Lane, Bellingdon HP5 2XX

Date: 22.01.2024

HERTS FOR REFUGEES

England & Wales - Charity number 1167716

Accounts



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From Period start date 1.4.2021

To Period end date 31.3.2022

Charity name: Herts for Refugees

Charity registration number: 1167716

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	We collect vital aid to support asylum seekers and refugees wherever there is need. We undertake fundraising activities to support these vulnerable people and to provide donations to grass roots organisations working on the ground with asylum seekers, primarily in France, Greece, Ukraine and neighbouring countries, Lebanon and Syria or wherever there is need.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Collection of items donated for asylum seekers and refugees (clothing, shoes, hygiene products, sleeping bags, tents and other items as required). Shipment of donated items to grass roots organisations. Distribution of clothing, shoes, hygiene products and other items as required to residents of initial accommodation in Hertfordshire (asylum seekers) Information sharing with many local schools to support their fundraising and learning with regard to the Ukraine Refugee situation. Education activities relating to the wider refugee situation globally. This was our largest single fundraising activity to date. Festival salvage re-started with many tents and sleeping bags collected and saved from landfill. These were taken to Northern France in collaboration with Hope and Aid Direct. Collaborative work with other refugee supporting charities on a local, national and international basis.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Trustees have been reminded of and read the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	We continue to be a charity run by volunteers who take no salary. Our volunteers are an invaluable part of our team with a very large number helping at festival salvage each summer. We are also immensely grateful to the people who pay to go to Calais and Dunkirk to volunteer on the ground there. Our volunteers contribute in the following ways: • Sharing and building awareness through social media • Helping at online and in person events • Collecting donations • Delivering aid to initial accommodation • Organising shipments to other countries • Attending meetings • Developing and running fundraising events • Sorting donations into boxes prior to shipment • Accounts • Attending Refugee Charity Network meetings • Attending multi-disciplinary meetings regarding support of asylum seekers in initial accommodation
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	April 2021 saw the UK and the world starting to return to some normality with the end of lockdown on March 29th. The world of refugee support was saddened by the passing of Brian Donnelly and Herts for Refugees took part in a collaborative fundraising effort with other refugee charities. Our first shipment to France following Brexit was delivered on 15th April, which was much cause for celebration. We also got back to collecting aid in person at our collection point and inviting volunteers to sort the donations into boxes ready for shipment. Masks and social distancing were still required and groups of less than 6. To celebrate Eid, our new trustee, Salma Khanum, organised the Ten for Ten fundraiser. We raised over £1000 to support the residents of our local hotel to have some personal treat bags made up for them. It was a heartfelt and successful campaign. In June we celebrated Refugee Week (with the theme of 'We cannot walk alone') by having a wellbeing walk through the beautiful Ashridge estate. Our trustee, Laura Hussey, walked the 13.1 miles of St Albans Half Marathon to raise funds and awareness. We also held a street market to raise awareness and sell our T-shirts. Herts for Refugees is gaining a good reputation locally and nationally for the great work done by our volunteer run charity. The most exciting part of Summer 2021 was the return of Festival Salvage which sees us save hundreds of tents and sleeping bags from landfill. We were able to salvage at Reading and Isle of Wight festivals which is many fewer than normal but still great to be back. We worked with Hope and Aid Direct to send the tents and sleeping bags to Northern France ready for the hard and cold winter season. In September 2021 the Refugee Charity Network's nappy appeal was launched

		which was a national collaboration. Over September and October a huge amount of nappies were donated and funds raised to send money to Greece and a shipment of nappies to Syria. We also held another market stall in St Albans where we promoted the orange hearts campaign to celebrate 70 years since the signing of the 1951 Refugee Convention. Locals signed orange hearts and wrote messages of solidarity which we shared with Together with Refugees. In November we contributed to and raised awareness of the Big Give organised by the Refugee Charity Network and Donate for Refugees (now For Refugees). A huge £36, 000 was raised. In December Christmas gift bags were created to bring some festive cheer to the residents of the local hotel in which we were supporting. Our inaugural February Freeze, which saw a number of trustees and volunteers sleep in tents in freezing temperatures raised both funds and awareness of the inhospitable conditions in which many refugees and asylum seekers must live. The Russian invasion of Ukraine led to a huge global outpouring of support for refugees. We were approached by the head of a local school who wanted to coordinate a day of action. We explained how it would be more useful to us if we could use money raised to help all refugees and not just those from Ukraine and the young people agreed that this is what they wanted to do. We were delighted with the generosity of the local community during the 'Reach out for Refugees' day on March 21st. Schools did educational activities and fundraising activities. It allowed us to support so many vital charities on the ground in and near Ukraine, in the Balkans and in Northern France. As the Year 2021-2022 came to an end we were excited to be organising a trip to France for volunteers to support on the ground. Our trip in April 2022 would be the first one since the pandemic started in 2020. As always we could not achieve what we do without our volunteers and supporters. We thank them all.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Income during the year: £40, 081.47 Spending during the year: £24, 773. Closing balance: £26, 619.82
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We retain funds in order to be able to respond to emergency requirements. We aim to keep at least £1, 000 in reserve and up to £5, 000.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Closing balance at the end of financial year: £26, 619.82 Our most successful campaign occurred in March/April 2022 (spanning two financial years). Trustee spending decisions were made in April 2022 to use increased funds to support refugee groups operating on the ground.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	n/a

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Donations through JustGiving, Facebook, Paypal and our bank account (as advertised on our website). Fundraising activities – February Freeze, Reach out for Refugees, Ten for Ten, market stalls.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	n/a
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Difficulties created by the departure from the European Union with regard to the shipment of aid to Europe. Dependency on CEO (trustee) for logistics and day-to-day running of charity. Finding enough volunteer time to run social media sites, run campaigns, manage volunteers.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	CIO foundation as registered on 20 th June 2016.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Discussion amongst trustees and noted in the trustee minutes that agreement had been reached.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The charity has a horizontal hierarchy. All strategic decisions are discussed and agreed by trustees. The charity collaborates with and is part of the Refugee Charity Network, which is a national network of similar charities. The aim is to pool resources and expertise and to increase awareness of the plight and needs of refugees and maximise effectiveness of fundraising and aid.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Herts for Refugees
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1157716

Charity's principal address	178 Bishops Rise Hatfield Herts AL10 9QY

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

		Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
	1	Angus Clark	CEO (day-to-day running of the charity)		
	2	Laura Hussey	Chair		
	3	Flip Pike			
	4	Sue Billington	Safeguarding lead		
	5	Helen Furse	Treasurer		
	6	Mark Lampert			
	7	Salma Khanum			
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

	Type of adviser	Name	Address
	Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)		

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

	Signature(s)	Laura Hussey	Angus Clark
	Full name(s)	Laura Hussey	Angus Clark
	Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
	Date	23.1.23	

Herts for Refugees - Income and Expense Statement to 31.03.22

	<u>Opening Balance 01.04.21</u>	<u>Closing balance 31.03.22</u>
Metro Bank	10,208.47	17,358.23
Paypal	1,105.84	9,261.59
Total Bank Balance	11,314.31	26,619.82
	Movement in year	15,305.51
Income		
Subscription	704.00	
Donation	8,018.89	
Campaign Donation	28,833.44	
Other Income	2,525.14	
Total Income		40,081.47
Expenses		
Gift	17,107.50	
Purchases	2,518.61	
Expenses	2,644.77	
Travel	641.06	
Training	91.00	
Rental	132.96	
Insurance	157.00	
Branded	784.34	
Website	15.00	
Marketing	20.00	
Just Giving	316.00	
Facebook	184.96	
Bank Charge	59.09	
Miscellaneous	5.20	
General Currency Conversion	98.47	
Total Expenses		24,775.96
Total Income over Expenses		15,305.51

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Herts for Refugees (Charity number 1167716)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Herts for Refugees for the year ended 31 March 2022

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Charity, Herts for Refugees you are responsible for the preparation of 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 by examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in
1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act;
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any
I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to

Signed:

Name: Elizabeth Russell (CIMA)

Address: Chouans Barn, Hawridge Lane, Bellingdon HP5 2XX

Date: 30.01.2023

HERTS FOR REFUGEES

England & Wales - Charity number 1167716

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

**From April 1st 2020
To March 31st 2021**

Charity name: Herts for Refugees

Charity registration number: 1167716

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	We collect vital aid to support asylum seekers and refugees wherever there is need. We undertake fundraising activities to support these vulnerable people and to provide donations to grass roots organisations working on the ground with asylum seekers, primarily in France, Greece, Lebanon and Syria or wherever there is need.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Activities during 2020-2021 were adversely affected by the global Covid-19 pandemic. Collections and all in-person activities were suspended for a period of time and only re-started in line with government guidelines and rules. Collection of items donated for asylum seekers and refugees (clothing, shoes, hygiene products, sleeping bags, tents and other items as required). Shipment of donated items to grass roots organisations. Production of hand-made face coverings to send to volunteers in refugee camps in Greece (due to global shortage of PPE during the Covid-19 pandemic). Distribution of clothing, shoes, hygiene products and other items as required to residents of initial accommodation in Hertfordshire (asylum seekers). Collaborative work with other refugee supporting charities on a local and national basis.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Trustees have been reminded of and read the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	n/a
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	n/a
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	All trustees and supporters of Herts for Refugees are volunteers. Our volunteers contribute in the following ways: - Sharing and building awareness through social media - Helping at online and in person events - Collecting donations - Delivering aid to initial accommodation - Organising shipments to other countries - Attending meetings - Developing and running fundraising events - Sorting donations into boxes prior to shipment - Accounts - Attending Refugee Charity Network meetings - Attending multi-disciplinary meetings regarding support of asylum seekers in initial accommodation
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The year 2020-2021 started with the UK in the middle of a national lockdown, in order to reduce the spread of Covid-19. Therefore, many activities were curtailed or cancelled. Innovations included a project to make hand-made face coverings to send to those supporting in refugee camps in Greece (Masks for Refugees). It was very difficult at this time to procure PPE and that which was available was prioritised for healthcare staff and other essential workers. Over 1200 face coverings were made and delivered. This allowed volunteers on the ground to continue to support refugees and ensure they were following Greek Covid-19 regulations. Fundraising events had to be moved online e.g. online quiz nights. Fortunately, the year-long transition following the UK's departure from the EU meant that shipments could be sent using existing systems. Shipments included 72 pallets of water, 12 pallets of baby food, clothing, and shoes. In the summer and autumn, we were able to undertake more activities such as a market stall to raise awareness of the plight of refugees and also to raise funds. Our usual festival salvage season which provides us with many tents and sleeping bags for refugees in Northern France, did not go ahead. A national 'No events = no tents' campaign requested donations of tents or money instead. In October and November, Herts for Refugees was one of the main collection points and logistics lead, for north east & southern England, for a hugely successful national campaign to collect hygiene products to be sent to grass roots organisations in Europe. We organised haulage, loading and delivery of 2 x 40ft trailers & 1 x 40ft shipping containers.

		In October 2020 we began support work in a local hotel which was housing asylum seekers from a range of locations. Many had only the clothes they arrived in and we were able to provide clothing, shoes, hygiene products, as well as a friendly face and support with accessing online English lessons provided by another organisation. January 2021 brought in another national lockdown to curb the spread of Covid-19. We continued to take part in collaborative collections of aid with a focus on winter clothing and were able to continue our work in the initial accommodation hotel, following strict social distancing rules, as prescribed by the company, which runs the contract to house new arrivals. Despite a difficult year for the entire world, we are proud of the amount of aid we managed to deliver and that we were able to respond to the needs of newly arrived people to our area. We continued to fundraise and raise awareness of the difficulties that refugees face throughout the world.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Funds raised during the year: £17,804. Spending during the year: £12,188.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We retain funds in order to be able to respond to emergency requirements. We aim to keep £1, 000 in reserve.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£8, 478
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Donations through JustGiving, Facebook, Paypal and our bank account (as advertised on our website). Fundraising activities – Online quiz, Pop up for Refugee Week, market stall.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Difficulties created by the departure from the European Union with regard to the shipment of aid to Europe. Dependency on CEO (trustee) for logistics and day-to-day running of charity.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	CIO foundation as registered on 20 th June 2016.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Discussion amongst trustees and noted in the trustee minutes that agreement had been reached.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The charity has a horizontal hierarchy. All strategic decisions are discussed and agreed by trustees. The charity collaborates with and is part of the Refugee Charity Network, which is a national network of similar charities. The aim is to pool resources and expertise and to increase awareness of the plight and needs of refugees and maximise effectiveness of fundraising and aid.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Herts for Refugees
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1167716

Charity's principal address	178 Bishops Rise Hatfield Herts AL10 9QY

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

		Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
	1	Laura Hussey	Chair of Trustees		
	2	Angus Clark	CEO (day to day operation of the charity)		
	3	Sue Billington	Safeguarding lead		
	4	Helen Furse	Treasurer		
	5	Mark Lampert	Merchandising and Salvage lead		
	6	Linda Hinds			
	7	Salma Khanum		15 th March 2021	
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	20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s) L Hussey	
Full name(s) Laura Hussey	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc) Chair	
Date 10.1.22	