



**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	<p>Collection of items donated for asylum seekers and refugees (clothing, shoes, hygiene products, sleeping bags, tents and other items as required).</p> <p>Shipment of donated items to grass roots organisations.</p> <p>Distribution of clothing, shoes, hygiene products and other items as required to residents of initial accommodation in Hertfordshire (asylum seekers)</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Collaborative work with other refugee supporting charities on a local, national and international basis.</p>

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	<p>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.</p> <p>Our volunteers contribute in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<p>April 2021 saw the UK and the world starting to return to some normality with the end of lockdown on March 29th.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>In September 2021 the Refugee Charity Network's nappy appeal was launched</p>

		<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>In December Christmas gift bags were created to bring some festive cheer to the residents of the local hotel in which we were supporting.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>As always we could not achieve what we do without our volunteers and supporters. We thank them all.</p>
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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	<p>The charity has a horizontal hierarchy. All strategic decisions are discussed and agreed by trustees.</p> <p>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.</p>
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