



Charity registration number:1169819

The Roma Project
Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year
ended 31st March 2023

The Roma Project
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for the year ended 31st March 2023

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The Roma Project
Reference and Administrative Details
for the year ended 31st March 2023

Trustees	Dave Faires - Chairperson Rosamaria Kostic Cisneros - Vice-Chair Michelle Webb – Treasurer Stanislava Yassmin Vilcekova Amalia Sabiescu Lydia Elizabeth Nash
Secretary	Amanda Rawlings
Principal Office	124 Broad St, Coventry CV6 5BG, United Kingdom
Charity Registration Number	1169819
Bankers	Barclays Bank
Independent examiner	Wendy Stanyon

The Roma Project
Trustees' Annual Report
for the year ended 31st March 2023

The Trustees are pleased to present the annual report of The Roma Project which was registered as a charitable incorporated organisation number 1169819 on 20th October 2016.

Objectives and activities

The Roma Project, which is based in Coventry, offers free and confidential information, advice and support across the city.

Main activities

We help to identify and claim benefits, to challenge decisions, to advise on strategies for dealing with problem debt, housing, education, to negotiate with creditors and to provide information and support on a range of other social welfare issues.

Our service is delivered from community outreach venues across the city where we offer a mix of 'drop-in' sessions and pre-booked appointments. Our service model is focused on reaching Roma people where they live, in their own neighbourhoods, in areas of greatest need.

By offering high quality advice and information services within the city we will help the Roma people to make informed decisions and choices that affect their lives. We do not seek to create a dependency on our service for assistance; instead we strive to empower people to recognise their rights and entitlements, to claim the benefits they need and to help find realistic solutions to financial problems.

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Long-time objectives

- To facilitate integration and social inclusion of the Roma community within the wider society;
- To advocate for the rights and equal opportunities of Roma individuals and families;
- To continue to offer accessible advice and information services in neighbourhoods across the city;
- To seek opportunities for enhancing our service to Coventry Roma community;
- To help address poverty and inequality by increasing the take-up of benefits and by offering debt advice and casework ;
- To attract additional volunteers to support our service delivery ;
- To play a part in the life of the city through engagement with local initiatives, policy work and campaigns;

Achievements and Performance

We know that we made a real difference for the people who come to see us. We assist people to secure income that they are entitled to and help them take more control of their finances to increase security and stability.

Our work continues to have a wider impact, including improving health, self-confidence and employability. In 2022/2023, 1,710 cases were opened and resolved.

Settled status enquires have become one of the main issues due to the Brexit Settlement Scheme. More than a half of our open cases have been about residence and settled status applications. Advice for welfare benefits, debt, housing and money advice continues to be in high demand.

Our organisation had to adjust during the pandemic and began to offer support and advice to clients - how and where to seek medical advice, how to get tested for the new Coronavirus and also how to stay safe and protect other people.

The Roma Project
Trustees' Annual Report
for the year ended 31st March 2023

The project engaged in advocacy efforts to promote awareness of the rights and needs of the Roma community. This included collaborating with local authorities and organisations to address issues related to healthcare, immigration discrimination, housing. The project successfully raised awareness about the challenges faced by the Roma community, leading to increased recognition of their rights and needs within the local area.

The Roma Project has demonstrated positive outcomes in addressing the educational and social needs of the Roma community . Our aims are to expand our educational programs and offer vocational training opportunities to empower Roma individuals for broader employment prospects. We are building stronger partnerships with local authorities, educational institutions, and other charities to amplify the influence and effectiveness of the project's initiatives.

Our service continues to have 1 day drop-in advice sessions per week and 5 days appointment sessions per week, but as mentioned above due to lockdown the number of people contacting our services via telephone, email and through social media platforms has increased.

With ongoing support and collaborative efforts, the project aims to continue making a meaningful impact on the lives of Roma individuals and families in our community.

Financial Review

The Roma Project has been funded by the Big Lottery and this funding will continue until August 2023. We have applied for further funding from the Big Lottery to continue our work with the Roma community.

The Trustees and officers of the charity continue to explore options for future funding streams and have a reasonable expectation that the charity will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future (being over 12 months from the date of signing this report) and have therefore, used the going concern basis in preparing these financial statements.

The Roma Project
Trustees' Annual Report

for the year ended 31st March 2023

Structure, governance and management

The Roma Project is constituted as a registered charitable incorporated organisation. Trustees of the charity are appointed following a skills-based audit and interview process with recommended appointments subject to election at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). At each AGM, one-third of the trustees must retire from office but are able to seek re-election. The trustees are also able to co-opt board members during the year, using the same skills-based approach.

Trustee's responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law and regulations. Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 31th of October 2023 and signed on its behalf by;

Dave Faires

The Roma Project
Independent Examiner's Report
for the year ended 31st March 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulation 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not 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.

Wendy Stanyon

The Roma Project

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 £
Income from:							
Donations	2	50	-	50	-	-	-
Charitable activities	3	-	116,113	116,113	-	98,947	98,947
Other		8,158	-	8,158	1,050	-	1,050
Total Incoming Resources		8,208	116,113	124,321	1,050	98,947	99,997
Expenditure on:							
Charitable Activities	4	2,732	117,786	120,518	221	115,076	115,297
Total Resources Expended		2,732	117,786	120,518	221	115,076	115,297
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		5,476	(1,673)	3,803	829	(16,129)	(15,300)
Total funds brought forward		26,766	40,634	67,400	24,130	58,570	82,700
Transfers		-	-	-	1,807	(1,807)	-
Funds Carried Forward		32,242	38,961	71,203	26,766	40,634	67,400

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 9.

The Roma Project

Balance Sheet

at 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Current Assets					
Debtors	6	5,128		3,478	
Cash at bank and in hand	7	70,014		70,438	
		<u>75,142</u>		<u>73,916</u>	
Current Liabilities					
Amounts due within 1 year	8	(3,939)		(6,516)	
Net Current Assets			71,203		67,400
Total Assets less Current Liabilities			<u>71,203</u>		<u>67,400</u>
Net Assets			<u>71,203</u>		<u>67,400</u>
Financed by:					
Restricted Funds	9		38,961		40,634
Unrestricted Funds	9		32,242		26,766
			<u>71,203</u>		<u>67,400</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on and were signed on its behalf by:

Signed _____
Director

The Roma Project

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Net cash provided by/ (used in) operating activities			
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per statement of financial activities)		3,803	(15,300)
Increase in debtors		(1,650)	(2,025)
Decrease in creditors		(2,577)	1,202
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		<u>(424)</u>	<u>(16,123)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		70,438	86,561
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	7	<u><u>70,014</u></u>	<u><u>70,438</u></u>

The Roma Project

Notes to the accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting policies

Basis of the preparation of the accounts

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the Financial Reporting Standard 102.

Income

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

Expenditure

These have been analysed using a natural classification.

Depreciation

There are no assets requiring capitalisation or depreciation.

2. Income from donations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £
Donations	50	-	50	-	-	-

3. Income charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £
The Big Lottery - Reaching Communities	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Big Lottery - Reaching Communities (2)	-	116,113	116,113	-	87,225	
Coventry City Council - Community Champions Fund	-	-	-	-	11,722	11,722
	-	116,113	116,113	-	98,947	98,947

The Roma Project

Notes to the accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2023

4. Cost of Charitable Activities by Fund Type

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2023 Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries	(5,000)	110,873	105,873	(4,000)	93,028	89,028
Rent	2,380	-	2,380	20	4,366	4,386
Minibus expenses	2,275	-	2,275	1,956	-	1,956
Travel expenses	1,083	-	1,083	-	-	-
Destitution expenses	178	-	178	275	-	275
Accountancy fees	-	2,250	2,250	-	2,250	2,250
Equipment	-	222	222	-	3,674	3,674
Evaluation fees	50	-	50	-	3,000	3,000
Events	889	-	889	600	-	600
Insurance	-	778	778	-	699	699
Meeting expenses	31	128	159	118	136	254
Miscellaneous	148	-	148	1,250	102	1,352
Payroll expenses	-	-	-	2	-	2
PPE equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Printing and stationery	-	739	739	-	846	846
Professional fees	-	-	-	-	150	150
Subscriptions	-	983	983	-	983	983
Sundry expenses	698	-	698	-	-	-
Telephone	-	651	651	-	604	604
Training	-	856	856	-	5,163	5,163
Volunteer expenses	-	-	-	-	75	75
Webhosting	-	306	306	-	-	-
	<u>2,732</u>	<u>117,786</u>	<u>120,518</u>	<u>221</u>	<u>115,076</u>	<u>115,297</u>

5. Staff Costs and Emoluments

Total staff costs were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	101,292	86,037
Social security costs	4,581	2,991
	<u>105,873</u>	<u>89,028</u>

No employees received employee benefits above £60,000 for the year

Particulars of employees:

The number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023 No	2022 No
Number of administrative staff	4	4

6. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Debtors	3,875	1,050
Accrued income	1,253	2,428
	<u>5,128</u>	<u>3,478</u>

The Roma Project

Notes to the accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2023

7. Cash at Bank and In Hand

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank and cash balances	70,014	70,438
	<u>70,014</u>	<u>70,438</u>

8. Creditors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other tax and social security	2,253	6,516
Other creditors	1,686	-
	<u>3,939</u>	<u>6,516</u>

9a. Movement in funds

	Balance at 31 March 2022	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
The Big Lottery - Reaching Communities	-	-	(56,783)	(1,787)	(58,570)
The Big Lottery - Reaching Communities (2)	40,634	116,113	(48,378)	1,787	110,156
Coventry City Council - Community Champions Fund	-	-	(9,915)	(1,807)	(11,722)
	<u>40,634</u>	<u>116,113</u>	<u>(115,076)</u>	<u>(1,807)</u>	<u>39,864</u>
General Funds	26,766	8,208	(221)	1,807	36,560
	<u>67,400</u>	<u>124,321</u>	<u>(115,297)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>76,424</u>

9b. Movement in funds (prior year)

	Balance at 31 March 2020	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
The Big Lottery - Reaching Communities	58,570	-	(56,783)	(1,787)	-
The Big Lottery - Reaching Communities (2)	-	87,225	(48,378)	1,787	40,634
Coventry City Council - Community Champions Fund	-	11,722	(9,915)	(1,807)	-
	<u>58,570</u>	<u>98,947</u>	<u>(115,076)</u>	<u>(1,807)</u>	<u>40,634</u>
General Funds	24,130	1,050	(221)	1,807	26,766
	<u>82,700</u>	<u>99,997</u>	<u>(115,297)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>67,400</u>