

AID BOX COMMUNITY

England & Wales · Charity number 1172697

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2017-04-24

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

Contact

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St Bartholomew's Parish Hall
Sommerville Road
Bristol
BS6 5BX

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Email Imogen@aidboxcommunity.co.uk

Website www.aidboxcommunity.co.uk

Activities

Objects: The relief of financial hardship, and assistance of, refugees, asylum seekers and their dependents in the UK by providing free essential living items, emergency support, opportunities for community engagement, recreation, preparation for employment and access to other necessary support services. Working with other organisations to enhance the positive impact of services supporting refugees and people seeking asylum. Undertaking such other charitable purposes for the public benefit and for the benefit of those seeking asylum, and for those granted refugee status, and their dependants as the trustees shall determine.

Activities: To provide Support, Supplies, and Sanctuary to Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Bristol and other areas of the United Kingdom by providing free and essential living items and a safe welcome space and signposting to our partner services for practical help in Housing, Legal Advice and Medical Help.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin

Geography

- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£358,571	£359,158	-	-
2024-03-31	£388,239	£336,409	-	-
2023-03-31	£388,083	£295,375	-	-
2022-03-31	£331,144	£208,552	-	-
2021-03-31	£237,822	£197,568	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Richard Hugh Annandale	Chair	2020-10-22
Clare Rachel McKeown		2022-06-16
Irene Elizabeth Zikusoka		2020-10-22
Joanna Killick		2024-07-23
Lucy Charlotte Middelboe		2024-10-14
Mariia Burlaka		2024-01-23
Patricia Omohakpor Ogri		2024-01-23
Shelly Ann Deonarine		2024-01-01
Thomas William Fallows		2024-05-01

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Accounts



AID BOX COMMUNITY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Charity Number 1172697

AID BOX COMMUNITY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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AID BOX COMMUNITY
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Charity Name Aid Box Community
Charity Number 1172697
Registered office 174b Cheltenham Rd, Montpelier, Bristol, BS6 5RE

Trustees Trustees holding office over the reporting period and newly appointed Trustees:

Richard Annandale	Trustee	22.10.20
	Chair from	01.02.22
Gillian Nineham	Trustee	13.10.18
Irene Zikusoka	Trustee	22.10.20
Clare McKeown	Trustee	16.06.22
Mariia Burlaka	Trustee	23.01.24
Shelly Ann Deonarine	Trustee	01.01.24
Patricia Ogri	Trustee	23.01.24
Thomas Fallows	Trustee	01.05.24
Joanna Killick	Trustee	23.07.24
Peter Kent	Trustee to	13.10.24
Lucy Middelboe	Trustee	14.10.24

Key Personnel Imogen McIntosh Founder and Director of Strategy
 Clare Chislett Director of Operations left on 10.06.25

Bankers Lloyds Bank
 Victoria Branch
 98 Victoria Street
 London SW1E 5JL

Independent Examiner Joanne Trowbridge MAAT
 Bristol Community Accountants CIC The Park,
 Daventry Road, Bristol BS4 1DQ

AID BOX COMMUNITY
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
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CHAIR'S REVIEW

In their response to our latest annual survey, 100% of participants said that ABC made them feel happier.

"I WAS SO LONELY AND HOPELESS. NOW I FEEL SO MUCH BETTER. THANK YOU."

**"THEY TREAT US LIKE FAMILY — A VERY
LOVELY FAMILY"**

**"I DON'T FEEL LIKE I AM BEING
IMAGINARY"**

Over the past year, over 4,000 people, both individuals and families, benefited from our Free Shop and Welcome Hub, with 9,524 recorded visits, and more than 580 people joined our support groups and community trips.

Our Connections Programme, now in its fifth year, has matched 400 people in meaningful friendships. We have distributed well over 414,000 essential items through our Free Shop, most of which were donated, recycled, and rehomed.

We also provided almost 4,500 bus tickets to help people access our services and supported 53 individuals through our Crisis Fund with direct emergency financial aid. Our newly launched Get Help page has already received nearly 2,000 views.

This vital work has only been possible thanks to our amazing 351 volunteers who gave their time and energy to ABC. From our end-of-year survey, 89% of respondents said ABC had made a positive impact on their, and their families', lives.

"When you don't understand what the future holds, it's scary. But when there's real help, you feel more confident. Problems become less overwhelming. Thank you, Aid Box Community."
— Service user, annual survey

All of this was achieved while we searched for a new home for our services. We are delighted to share the news that a new location has been secured, and we look forward to settling into our new home soon.

Responding to a Changing Landscape

The past year brought significant challenges in the refugee sector. The coming into law of the Rwanda Act caused fear and uncertainty, with many people receiving deportation notices. In August, we witnessed far-right violence across the UK including in Bristol, sparking large counter-protests and deeply affecting our community. Since then, there has been a worrying rise in Islamophobic and racist incidents both locally and nationally.

However, with the change in government came the repeal of the Rwanda Act and an acceleration in asylum claim processing. This has led to increased dispersal of people to Bristol and greater movement in and out of the city, impacting our services and requiring us to adapt quickly to meet shifting needs.

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**“I FEEL A DEEP LONGING FOR MY FAMILY AND MY COUNTRY.
SPENDING TIME WITH YOU MAKES ME FEEL BETTER.”**

Staffing Update

Over the past year, our team has continued to grow in strength and impact. We now have 11 part-time staff members, equivalent to 5.6 full-time roles. Each team member brings passion, skills, and expertise that ensure our work is delivered to the highest standards and that ABC remains sustainable and resilient.

In the summer of 2025, Clare Chislett will be stepping down from her role as Director of Operations. Clare has been an integral part of ABC, co-leading the charity since 2021. Her compassion, dedication, and generosity have left a lasting mark on our team and our community. We will miss her greatly. Clare has been involved with ABC since its inception, first as a volunteer and then as vital member of our staff team, and her spirit will always remain at the heart of our charity.

As we prepare to move into larger premises, we've made some changes to our staffing structure. This has created exciting new opportunities for existing team members, and we are also delighted to welcome John Aguirre as our new Operations Manager. Imogen McIntosh, our founder and Director, will continue to lead the charity.

“ABC HELP US TO LOOK BEAUTIFUL AND KEEP US WARM FROM THE COLD”

Volunteers - 351 people dedicated their time

We cannot express enough our gratitude to all our fantastic volunteers who donated 23,426 hours of their time. As in previous years, the warmth, loyalty and dedication of our volunteers all continue to inspire us.

Volunteer numbers have remained steady, supported by ongoing recruitment efforts and the introduction of new roles. Sixty-four people with lived experience volunteered their time. Our three annual compulsory training weekends offer a valuable opportunity for both new and longstanding volunteers to come together, connect, and engage in learning. These weekends include an introduction to ABC, an overview of the UK asylum system, safeguarding, professional boundaries, and powerful insights from the lived experiences of our service users.

This year, we expanded our training programme to include new sessions such as a First Aid refresher and strategies for communicating with individuals who speak English as an additional language. Regular supervision sessions promote a sense of value and belonging among our volunteers, which contribute significantly to their wellbeing and retention.

Premises Update

After two and a half years of searching, we are thrilled to have secured a new home that will bring our Free Shop, Welcome Hub, admin offices, and community groups together under one roof.

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This move marks an exciting new chapter for ABC. We are especially looking forward to reinstating a dedicated Welcome Area, a vital space that was lost due to the increasing demand on our Free Shop and the limited size of our previous premises.

Having all our services in one location will not only improve accessibility and coordination but also strengthen the sense of community and belonging at the heart of everything we do. We aim to be relocating in September 2025.

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Charitable Objectives

The purposes of the Charity as set out in its governing document are as follows:

The relief of financial hardship, and assistance of, refugees, asylum seekers and their dependants in the UK by providing free essential living items, emergency support, opportunities for community engagement, recreation, preparation for employment and access to other necessary support services.

Working with other organizations to enhance the positive impact of services supporting refugees and people seeking asylum.

Undertaking such other charitable purposes for the public benefit and for the benefit of those seeking asylum, and for those granted refugee status, and their dependants as the trustees shall determine.

Vision, mission, values

Vision

We envision a world where the rights of refugees and those seeking asylum are respected so that they have the opportunity to achieve financial and emotional independence.

Mission

We provide a warm welcome to people seeking asylum in Bristol and offer the support they need to access living essentials, emotional support, recreation, shelter, community, legal advice, health care and employment.

Values

We treat everyone with respect, compassion and love and seek to offer hope, advocacy and a space to belong. We welcome all displaced people regardless of their faith, race, ethnicity, culture, age, disability, gender and sexuality.

Public Benefit

Aid Box Community exists to support some of the most vulnerable members of our society - individuals and families who have experienced forced migration and are seeking safety, stability, and a sense of belonging.

We provide a safe, welcoming space where people can connect with others, access both practical and emotional support, and begin to build new lives in Bristol. Through our services, we help individuals feel seen, valued, and empowered, while also reducing isolation and increasing wellbeing. In doing so, we create opportunities for connection, community, and personal growth, all benefiting the wider community as well as our beneficiaries.

By offering support to a large and diverse number of people through our Free Shop and Welcome Hub, we are uniquely positioned within the city's refugee and asylum sector to provide effective signposting to partner organisations for additional specialised support. This

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collaborative approach enhances our overall impact and ensures our service users are supported holistically.

Summary of Main Activities for Public Benefit

The charity carries out a wide range of activities in pursuance of its charitable aims. The trustees believe that these activities, summarised below, provide benefit both to those seeking asylum and to those granted refugee status and their dependants as well as to the wider community of Bristol.

In line with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, the following core activities were delivered throughout the year:

- **Free Shop and Welcome Hub:** Open five days a week (Monday–Friday), providing free essential items, a warm welcome, and a safe space for connection.
- **Activity Groups and Community Trips:** Facilitating social inclusion and wellbeing through regular group activities and outings.
- **'Connections' Befriending Programme:** Supporting long-term social connections by matching individuals with local volunteers.
- **Welfare and Crisis Support:** Offering practical and financial assistance through our Crisis Fund, including essential resources and emergency relief.
- **Transport Assistance:** Distributing bus tickets to remove barriers to accessing our services and other key appointments.
- **Signposting:** Directing individuals to appropriate services and partner organisations for additional support.

All our services are free and open to those in need, and are designed to be inclusive, responsive, and rooted in dignity and respect.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

On 31st March 2025, the Aid Box Community team consisted of 11 staff members (5.6 FTE) and one freelance worker (0.4 FTE). The Strategic Director manages strategic development and fundraising, supported by a fundraising team, charity administrator and finance manager (2.5 FTEs). The Operations Director manages the delivery of charitable activities supported by delivery staff (3.1 FTEs).

Management

The Charity Trustees manage the affairs of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation and exercise all its powers. The Trustees delegate the day-to-day operation of the charity to the Director, who is in turn accountable to the Trustees through our Chair.

Trustee Board

On 31st March 2025, Aid Box Community was governed by a Board of 10 Trustees, who bring a diverse range of skills and experience to the organisation. Four of our Trustees have lived experience of the UK's asylum system. All Trustees are initially appointed by a formal resolution for a three-year term. They can serve as a trustee for three consecutive terms and only beyond this maximum period in exceptional circumstances for such further period as the trustees shall approve.

Trustees are appointed by the existing trustees normally after open advertisement and interview. This is undertaken by a combination of key governance information and practical sessions. New Trustees are involved in an Induction Plan under which they receive key charity documents, required reading material and training.

Governing document

The organisation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed according to the rules of its CIO Foundation Constitution, registered on 24 April 2017, most recently amended on 26 September 2024.

Governance

Members of the Trustee Board meet quarterly to discuss strategic matters, review the risk register, and make key decisions. The Board delegates certain responsibilities to three sub-committees as detailed below. The first two sub-committees meet quarterly, in advance of Trustee meetings.

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SUB COMMITTEE	RESPONSIBILITIES
Finance Audit and Fundraising	Meets quarterly to approve budgets, for recommendation to the Trustee Board; approval of fundraising contracts; the monitoring of financial health and the liquidity of the charity.
Health & Safety and Safeguarding	Meets quarterly recognising the important role that safeguarding plays in supporting the safety and wellbeing of our service users. Ensures all procedures are being followed correctly. Also reviews any health and safety issues especially in relation to our premises.
Human Resources Committee	The Human Resources Sub-Committee makes recommendations to the Board on matters relating to remuneration policy, senior staff appointments and staff remuneration and terms and conditions of service. It meets each February to carry out a review of staff remuneration and, at other times, when the need arises.

Lived Experience Working Group

An essential part of the governance and strategic planning of our CIO is the Lived Experience Working Group, which plays a vital role in shaping the direction and values of Aid Box Community.

At ABC, we believe it is imperative that individuals with lived experience of the asylum system are not only represented but meaningfully involved in decision-making. We are committed to providing opportunities for people with lived experience to volunteer, contribute to leadership, and gain employment both within ABC and beyond. This year sixty-four of our volunteers had lived experience.

We also see the tangible benefits of having four trustees with lived experience on our Board. Their insights have been instrumental in identifying areas where we can improve inclusivity and accessibility across the charity. Informed by their perspectives, along with research conducted by BRASP and the University of the West of England (UWE), we have revised our recruitment policies to remove barriers and promote equity in hiring practices.

Our Lived Experience Working Group has continued to grow in strength and purpose. The group is committed to ensuring its input is impactful and never tokenistic. To deepen engagement and effectiveness, the group will now meet bi-monthly rather than quarterly and will be led by our new staff member, John Aguirre, who brings both professional expertise and his own lived experience to the role.

We are determined that this group remains a genuine and empowering space where lived experience is not only heard but actively shapes the charity’s development. This is central to our mission to be inclusive, equitable, and community led.

**“IT A BEAUTIFUL FEELING THAT I CAN COME TO YOU,
TALK TO YOU AND YOU'D LISTEN TO ME.”**

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WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

We work very closely with the other main refugee support services in the city as part of the **Bristol Refugee and Asylum Seeker Partnership (BRASP)**.

Aid Box Community is proud to be one of 14 partner organisations of BRASP - a collaborative network that has been developing since 2020. BRASP was established to formalise our ways of working together, enhance communication, reduce duplication and competition for funding, and improve overall efficiency across the sector. Through this collaborative approach, we all aim to deliver more effective, joined-up services, share resources and achieve better outcomes for refugees and asylum seekers in Bristol.

BRASP Vision:

All refugees and asylum seekers enjoy healthy and fulfilling lives in Bristol, have a voice, and their needs are met by an effective, unified, and sustainable sector.

Over the past year, BRASP has been working on developing a sustainable partnership, focused on Lived Experience Leadership, including the development of a peer support network for staff with lived experience across member organisations.

Additionally, the BRASP Influencing, Advocacy, and Campaigning Working Group has identified three key priority areas based on what matters most to the people we support:

- Access to public transport
- The right to work
- Access to free legal services

These priorities will guide collective advocacy efforts across the partnership in the year ahead, ensuring that the voices and needs of refugees and asylum seekers remain central to our work.

Collaborations

In addition to our work with BRASP partners, Aid Box Community is proud to collaborate with a wide range of local organisations, community groups, schools, churches, and individuals. These partnerships play a vital role in raising awareness about the experiences of refugees and asylum seekers, sharing knowledge and skills, and enriching the lives of our service users through inclusive and engaging activities.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who has contributed their time, resources, and expertise to support our work. It would be impossible to name everyone, but we would like to acknowledge just a few of the many wonderful collaborators who have helped make a difference this year: **Coexist Cookery, Bristol Ferries, We the Curious, Open Minds Active, Lockleaze Sports Centre, Bristol Cow Folk, Bristol Old Vic, Travelling Kitchen, Bridge Farm, Trinity Centre.**

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Free Shop and Welcome Hub – visited by 2,103 adults

This year, our Free Shop has seen an increase in demand, with daily visitor numbers now averaging 40–50 people. Managing this consistently high footfall is a challenge our dedicated staff and volunteers rise to daily, balancing efficiency, fairness, and above all, a warm, respectful welcome for every individual who walks through our doors.

Ensuring equitable distribution of aid remains a priority, and over the past year we have reviewed our systems and implemented several additional measures to help maintain fairness while preserving dignity and choice for our service users.

Thanks to the generosity of our local community and donors, we maintain a rapid flow of high-quality donations, which are quickly sorted and made available on our shelves. Our teams of eight volunteers daily play a vital role in keeping the Free Shop running smoothly and compassionately.

Many of those we support are relocated within or beyond Bristol at very short notice. We make every effort to respond practically, ensuring essentials like luggage are available while also supporting the emotional wellbeing of our staff and volunteers during these often-upsetting transitions.

The Free Shop continues to be a lifeline, not only meeting basic needs but also offering a rare sense of stability, kindness, and emotional support. For many, we are a constant in a life full of change. One of the most common questions we hear when someone is moved to a new location is: **“IS THERE ANOTHER ABC IN THAT CITY?”**

Outreach

This winter we responded to an outbreak of scabies in one of the hotels and were funded by the council to purchase clothes for the residents who had been affected. We were able to do this very efficiently and the remaining funds were added to our essential aid fund to be spent by the end of the financial year.

Activity Groups and Trips Programme – enjoyed by 588 individuals

Women's Group (161 participants)

Our weekly activity groups offer a safe, welcoming space where women can enjoy a relaxed morning with food, creative activities, and the chance to connect, build friendships, and learn new skills.

A highlight of the year was our Winter Party, which brought together over 60 women for a joyful celebration. We also welcomed guest facilitators from Love Well Training, Second Step, and Bristol City College, who led inspiring skill-building workshops. Creative sessions, including macramé, tie-dye, clay modelling, and bracelet making, filled our mornings with laughter, learning, and connection.

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Women's weekly Multisport (33 participants)

This year, we launched our weekly Women's multisport sessions in response to high demand from our service users and the need for a modest, welcoming space where women can get active comfortably.

The sessions have been a great success, with strong engagement and positive feedback. Due to their popularity, we are now running our third consecutive 6-week long programme, and we plan to continue offering this much-valued activity.

Trauma-Informed Swimming Lessons (26 participants)

Delivered in partnership with Open Minds Active, these sessions provide a safe, supportive, and culturally sensitive space for women to learn to swim, build confidence in the water, and enjoy gentle exercise. Beyond fitness, the lessons offer an opportunity for relaxation, connection, and a sense of community, something many participants value just as much as the physical activity.

Gardening Group (41 participants)

This year, we also ran a gardening group. During the summer months, it was well-attended. In the future, we plan to hold Garden groups within the grounds of our new premises.

Trips & Cooking Sessions

This year, we organised many exciting trips, including a ferry trip, visits to the Botanical Gardens, We the Curious, Coexist, and several farm visits.

As always, our Christmas boat trip was a big highlight, with a fantastic turnout. We also had a special Eid ferry trip, which was just as successful. These ferry trips continue to be a favourite among our members. The Coexist sessions had good attendance overall, although the first and last sessions had fewer people. Our farm trips also saw a steady turnout.

Men's Football (327 participants)

Our men's football programme continues to thrive, with 327 participants this year across two weekly 2-hour sessions. Each session attracts around 40 men, offering not only physical activity but also a vital sense of community, belonging, and improved wellbeing. The positive impact is clear, both physically and emotionally:

**"WHEN I THINK OF ABC, IT REMINDS ME
THAT I'M A PERSON — NOT JUST AN
ASYLUM SEEKER."**

**"PLAYING FOOTBALL HAS REALLY HELPED
MY MENTAL HEALTH THROUGH PHYSICAL
EXERCISE."**

"YOU MAKE ME FEEL SO WELCOMED — NEVER JUDGED."

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Connections – Befriending Programme

It's hard to believe that in April 2025 we will have had 5 years of ABC's Connections programme. During this time, we have connected almost 400 individuals for friendship, with several volunteers having had more than one connection.

Participants report many benefits including improved mental health and reduced isolation:

- 94% of people who took part in the Connections programme said they felt less isolated as a result.
- 83% of people participating in Connections are still friends 6 months after the programme ended.
- 84% of people report that being connected improved their mental health and sense of well-being.

Welfare and Crisis Support

"I WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO MEET PEOPLE LIKE YOU IN THE HARDSHIPS OF MY LIFE TO REALISE THAT KINDNESS IS STILL VALUABLE IN THE WORLD"

This year, we supported 53 individuals through our **Crisis Fund**, providing vital assistance when all other avenues of support had been exhausted. These timely interventions can make a critical difference, helping to prevent individuals from falling into deeper crisis and offering a lifeline at moments of acute need.

We have responded to referrals from several trusted partner organisations, including: BRASP partners, Unseen, NHS, Bristol City Council social services and many more. Our Crisis Fund continues to be a crucial safety net for those facing extreme hardship, allowing us to respond quickly and compassionately to urgent situations.

[Get Help Page](#)

Our live Get Help page on our website is a multi-language resource where service users, volunteers, staff, partner organisations and the public can find where to get help. This was our first year and the page received nearly 2000 views.

Transport Assistance

Bus Fares

Transport is one of the biggest barriers to people accessing support so at ABC our policy is to only offer a service if we can provide people who need it with a bus fare. This year we distributed 4,490 bus tickets to our service users.

Safeguarding and Health and Safety

18 incidents were reported by staff this year to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (the Director), and four were dealt with as welfare concerns. Three safeguarding referrals were made to the Council safeguarding team and one to SARI and the police. None of these met the criteria to be reported to the Charity Commission.

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Monitoring and Evaluation

With the help of a team of volunteers we were able to collect feedback through our annual anonymous service user survey from 81 of our service users in 12 languages. We obtained feedback after individual activities, after service programmes, and through our lived experience working group. We also continued to benefit from our M&E framework which went live last year. All these factors help us to gain a comprehensive insight into our services and activities, defining measurable outcomes by utilizing the feedback from our service users. In this way we can maximise the positive impact of our work, which is reflected in information, and members' comments, provided in this report and, in more detail, in our annual Impact Report.

Challenges

We have continued our search for new premises this year, as the growing demand for our services has made the need for additional space increasingly urgent. Managing queues in a way that maintains dignity and respect for those we support, while also safeguarding the wellbeing of our staff and volunteers, has been a significant challenge. In the current climate of rising hostility towards refugees, there has been a palpable sense of unease. This has further highlighted the importance of working in a trauma-informed manner to ensure our services remain compassionate, safe, and inclusive.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total incoming resources for the year were £358,571 as against resources expended which were £359,158 resulting in a deficit of £587. The Charity received more than it spent in restricted funds by £11,487 and is holding a balance of £15,487 at the 31 March 2025. The deficit on unrestricted funds was therefore £12,074.

Over the past several years, Aid Box Community's income has consistently exceeded its expenditure, due to excellent fundraising performance and the continued delay in finding new premises. Hence the Charity has built up a significant level of reserves, as explained below. This is the first year that expenditure has exceeded income, as planned, and we expect there to be a significant deficit in the year ending 31 March 2026. This is a planned investment of the reserves the Charity has built up, as we move to larger and more suitable premises where we can continue to improve the vital support we provide to our beneficiaries.

Fundraising activity

Our local fundraising income including events, individual giving, community fundraising and corporate donations, continued to grow this year totalling £83,673 (2023-24 £72,253). Together with the £31,010 gift aid donation from Aid Box Trading, our trading subsidiary, the total income from fundraising activities is £114,683 (2023-24 £102,344) which represents 32% of the total income for the charity.

As always, we are blown away by the generosity of our community and want to thank every individual, company, community group and all our volunteers for their incredible fundraising efforts again this year.

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Grant income

Total grants received from trusts and foundations was £204,798 (2023-24 £236,478) and statutory grants from Bristol City Council totalled £35,000 (2023-24 £45,000). Grant income represents 67% of total income and 51% of that is restricted to specific activities. The landscape for trusts and foundations fundraising is becoming increasingly competitive, and we are incredibly grateful to all our funders for their ongoing support.

More information about our grant income is provided in the note to the accounts. We want to acknowledge significant and multi-year grants from National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund, Martin Smith Family Trust, AB Charitable Trust, Garfield Weston Foundation, Nisbet Trust, Bristol City Council City of Sanctuary, SECL Octopus and Festival Medical Services.

Expenditure budget

We've changed the presentation of our expenditure on Charitable Activities this year to provide a clearer link between the financial statements and our achievements and performance as described on pages 10 to 13.

Total expenditure for the year was £359,158 (2023-24 £336,409), an increase of 7%. Part of this increase was due to inflation with the average Consumer Price Index across the year at 3.2%. There was also growth in all areas of our charitable work, with more people accessing the free shop, an increased activity programme, and a general increase in demand for our services.

Total staff costs were £211,706 (2023-24 £186,384) with an average monthly head count of 11 (2023-24 10). All staff are part-time and the average number of full-time equivalent staff in the year was 5.4 (2023-24 5.1). The increase in staff costs is the result of a few factors: staff were awarded a 4.5% pay increase, recognising the impact of high inflation costs in recent years; the finance function was brought in-house part way through the year with the appointment of a Finance Manager, replacing the freelance bookkeeper; and there was a small increase in staff hours due to the growth in activity.

Independent Examiners

Joanne Trowbridge of Bristol Community Accountants CIC was appointed as the Charity's Independent Examiner during the year. Joanne Trowbridge is a member of the Association of Accounting Technicians.

RESERVES POLICY

The Charity aims to hold six months' operating costs as free reserves to provide financial security in case there is a sudden loss of income or change in operational structure. The Trustees believe this is sufficient to allow the Charity to continue to deliver its activities in the short term, while the director and Trustees determine what action to take. The reserves policy is reviewed on an annual basis and compared with the reserves level. Depending on the level of reserves held, and the future strategy for the Charity, the Trustees may plan to grow or invest reserves as required.

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Level of reserves held

On 31 March 2025, the total unrestricted free reserves were £289,170. In addition, we held designated funds of £78,800 and restricted funds of £15,487.

The Trustees designated £80,000 in 2023-24 in anticipation of the significant costs anticipated by our planned premises move. The lease of our current premises expired in July 2024. Despite our best efforts, it has taken us over 2 years to find new premises. The process to move to our new home only started in March 2025 and £1,200 was incurred as costs in the year to 31 March 2025. The extensive fit-out works and then move into our new premises are expected to be finalised by late summer 2025. Once the move is complete, and all associated costs have been expended, any remaining designated funds will be released and become unrestricted funds for the Charity.

Our budgeted operating costs for the 6 months following 31 March 2025 are £183,723. As noted before, our free reserves held as at 31 March 2025 is above this figure at £289,170.

The unavoidable delay in securing our new premises has contributed to an inevitable build up in our free reserves. We had anticipated incurring much earlier, the greater operational costs for the move into new premises. The new, larger premises we have found are far more suitable for the future delivery of our services and activities.

The Trustees expect to utilise this excess reserve over future accounting periods during which we anticipate incurring managed budget deficits. These anticipated deficits will be due to higher costs, driven by growing demand and capacity of our services, especially in light of our confirmed relocation to new, more costly, premises. The Trustees also acknowledge a challenging fundraising environment in our charity sector which may adversely impact income generation from grants and trusts, our primary sources of income.

Given these budgetary conditions facing the Charity, the Trustees consider it to be responsible and appropriate to utilise current excess reserves over future accounting periods to ensure that the Charity navigates its near-term growth and mitigates financial risk.

FUTURE PLANS

Aid Box Community will continue to empower refugees and people seeking asylum.

The move to our new larger home will allow us to offer a more dignified experience for refugees and people seeking asylum with room to rest, connect, and participate in activities. We will have a dedicated Welcome Area, separate from the Free Shop, where people can rest, share tea, join activities, or simply feel part of a community.

Our Welcome Hub and Free Shop will remain open five days a week, offering practical support in a warm, safe, and welcoming environment. We will also continue to offer a wide-ranging activity programme to support wellbeing, skill-building, and community integration. The Hub will also act as a key gateway service in the city as we see people from when they arrive in Bristol all the way through their asylum application journey and continuing after they receive their Right to Remain.

**AID BOX COMMUNITY
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

We signpost to our partner organisations for legal advice, housing, healthcare, and more. Moving to the new venue will also give us an opportunity to engage more with the local community, invite them to take part in community events and sharing of skills and culture.

We will also build on the strength of our Lived Experience leadership team and our Lived Experience Working Group to shape the future of our services in this new space. This will include co-designing new activities, training sessions, and community events based on the needs and ideas expressed by our service users. We will begin new in-house activities and explore how the space can be used to foster deeper community connection and healing. Additionally, we will reinforce our pathways for service users to access volunteer and leadership roles within ABC.

We will continue to develop and roll out our ambassador programme, strengthen our relationships with the local community and other creative way of raising funds as we navigate the increasingly difficult fundraising climate.

This coming October, Aid Box Community will celebrate 10 years since its founding. We are immensely proud of our incredible staff team, trustee board, and the army of passionate volunteers and supporters who make our work possible. The love, dedication, and commitment everyone has poured into this vision continue to inspire us all every day.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees of the charity acknowledge their responsibility to maintain proper accounting records, to prepare Annual Accounts which show a true and fair view of the activities of the charity and to take appropriate measures to protect the assets of the charity from major loss.

This report is made under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the requirements of applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice).

The report was approved by the Trustees on^{17/11/2025} and signed on their behalf by:

Richard Annandale

Thomas Fallows

Signed by:

.....
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Signed by:

.....
7B28FDEB0B6442D...

Chair

Treasurer

Date 17/11/2025

Date 25/11/2025

AID BOX COMMUNITY
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 18-27.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

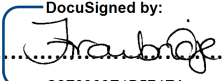
Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Association of Accounting Technicians, which is one of the listed bodies.

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:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Joanne Trowbridge MAAT

DocuSigned by:

C2F8368E1B574EA...

Date ...25/11/2025.....

Bristol Community Accountants CIC
The Park
Daventry Road, Bristol BS4 1DQ

AID BOX COMMUNITY**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Including Income
and Expenditure Account)****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	Note	£	£	£	£
Incoming and Endowments from:					
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>					
Donations and legacies	3	233,262	88,240	321,502	341,945
Charitable activities	4	-	35,000	35,000	45,000
Investments	5	2,069	-	2,069	1,294
Total		<u>235,331</u>	<u>123,240</u>	<u>358,571</u>	<u>388,239</u>
Expenditure On:					
Raising funds	7	60,046	-	60,046	56,630
Charitable activities	8	186,345	111,753	298,098	278,795
Other	9	1,014	-	1,014	984
Total		<u>247,405</u>	<u>111,753</u>	<u>359,158</u>	<u>336,409</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		(12,074)	11,487	(587)	51,830
Extraordinary item	10	(7,086)	-	(7,086)	-
Net income/(expenditure) before other gains and losses		<u>(19,160)</u>	<u>11,487</u>	<u>(7,673)</u>	<u>51,830</u>
Net movement in funds		<u>(19,160)</u>	<u>11,487</u>	<u>(7,673)</u>	<u>51,830</u>
Total funds brought forward		387,130	4,000	391,130	339,300
Total Funds Carried Forward	18	<u>367,970</u>	<u>15,487</u>	<u>383,457</u>	<u>391,130</u>

All of the activities of the charity are classed as continuing

The notes on pages 20 to 27 form part of these financial statements


AID BOX COMMUNITY

BALANCE SHEET

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Current assets			
Debtors	16	32,507	76,823
Cash at bank and in hand		381,872	319,645
<i>Total current assets</i>		<u>414,379</u>	<u>396,468</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	17	(30,922)	(5,338)
<i>Net current assets or liabilities</i>		<u>383,457</u>	<u>391,130</u>
Total net assets or liabilities		<u><u>383,457</u></u>	<u><u>391,130</u></u>
The Funds of the Charity			
Restricted funds	19	15,487	4,000
Unrestricted funds		367,970	387,130
		<u>383,457</u>	<u>391,130</u>

These financial statements were approved by the trustees and are signed on their behalf by:

Signed by:

 Richard Annandale - Chair

Date: 17/11/2025

The notes on pages 20 to 27 form part of these financial statements

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Basis of Preparation

- a) These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP(FRS 102)) and with the Charities Act 2011.

- b) Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared on the accruals basis. The trustees feel this results in the accounts providing more appropriate and relevant information about the financial performance of the charity.

- c) The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.
d) The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

2 Accounting Policies

- a) Income from donations is included in income when these are receivable, except as follows:

- i) When donors specify that donations given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods.
ii) When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred until the pre-conditions have been met.

- b) In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) the general volunteer time is not recognised in the financial statements. Refer to the Trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

- c) Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Expenditure includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

- d) Most expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities, and has been included in those cost categories. Support costs have been allocated 100% towards the charitable activities of the charity.

- e) Rentals applicable to operating lease agreements where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

- f) Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

- g) Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

- h) The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

- i) The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. Pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the charitable company during the year.

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025****Income and Endowments From:**

3 Donations and Legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
General Donations	83,390	1,442	84,832	83,345
Grants	118,000	86,798	204,798	236,848
Fundraising Events	16,047	-	16,047	11,405
Gift Aid	13,803	-	13,803	7,634
Miscellaneous Income	2,022	-	2,022	2,713
	<u>233,262</u>	<u>88,240</u>	<u>321,502</u>	<u>341,945</u>

<i>Donations and legacies - prior year</i>	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Total Funds</i>
	<i>Funds</i>	<i>Funds</i>	<i>2024</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
<i>General Donations</i>	<i>83,345</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>83,345</i>
<i>Grants</i>	<i>117,370</i>	<i>119,478</i>	<i>236,848</i>
<i>Fundraising Events</i>	<i>11,405</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>11,405</i>
<i>Gift Aid</i>	<i>7,634</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>7,634</i>
<i>Miscellaneous Income</i>	<i>2,713</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>2,713</i>
	<u><i>222,467</i></u>	<u><i>119,478</i></u>	<u><i>341,945</i></u>

The Charity also benefits greatly from the involvement and enthusiastic support of its many volunteers, details of which are given in our annual report. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

4 Charitable Activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Statutory Grants	-	35,000	-	45,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>35,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>45,000</u>

5 Investments	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest receivable	2,069	-	2,069	1,294
	<u>2,069</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,069</u>	<u>1,294</u>

Investments prior year - all unrestricted

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025****6 Government Grants**

The charity receives government grants, defined as funding from Bristol City Council to fund charitable activities. The total value of such grants in the period ending 31 March 2025 was £35,000 (2024: £40,000). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants in the year ended 31 March 2025.

Expenditure on:

7 Raising Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising staff costs	54,113	-	54,113	50,809
Fundraising costs	5,933	-	5,933	5,821
	<u>60,046</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,046</u>	<u>56,630</u>

Raising Funds prior year

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2024
	£	£	£
Fundraising staff costs	23,230	27,579	50,809
Fundraising costs	5,821	-	5,821
	<u>29,051</u>	<u>27,579</u>	<u>56,630</u>

8 Charitable Activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	104,606	52,987	157,593	135,575
Free shop, activities and volunteer costs	45,661	57,433	103,094	100,817
Bus tickets for beneficiaries	13,948	985	14,933	11,518
Room hire and meeting costs	1,868	-	1,868	-
Internet, phone and IT	5,139	-	5,139	3,089
Insurance	1,687	-	1,687	2,128
Repairs and Equipment	1,194	-	1,194	478
Marketing and Subscriptions	1,593	-	1,593	4,450
Bookkeeping and Payroll	7,586	-	7,586	16,040
Professional Fees	-	-	-	371
Training and supervision	1,376	348	1,724	3,326
Recruitment costs	740	-	740	1,003
Governance costs	947	-	947	-
	<u>186,345</u>	<u>111,753</u>	<u>298,098</u>	<u>278,795</u>

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025****Charitable Activities analysed by activity basis:**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025
	£	£	£
Hub, free shop and volunteer costs	58,924	84,657	143,581
Activities and connections	77,370	7,178	84,548
Welfare costs	8,574	70	8,644
Core operational costs	41,477	19,848	61,325
	<u>186,345</u>	<u>111,753</u>	<u>298,098</u>

<i>Charitable Activities - prior year</i>	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Total Funds 2024</i>
	£	£	£
<i>Staff costs</i>	<i>62,131</i>	<i>73,444</i>	<i>135,575</i>
<i>Free shop, activities and volunteer costs</i>	<i>20,948</i>	<i>79,869</i>	<i>100,817</i>
<i>Bus tickets for beneficiaries</i>	<i>11,518</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>11,518</i>
<i>Internet, phone and IT</i>	<i>3,084</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>3,089</i>
<i>Insurance</i>	<i>925</i>	<i>1,203</i>	<i>2,128</i>
<i>Repairs and Equipment</i>	<i>478</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>478</i>
<i>Marketing and Subscriptions</i>	<i>4,400</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>4,450</i>
<i>Bookkeeping and Payroll</i>	<i>16,040</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>16,040</i>
<i>Professional Fees</i>	<i>371</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>371</i>
<i>Training and supervision</i>	<i>806</i>	<i>2,520</i>	<i>3,326</i>
<i>Recruitment costs</i>	<i>1,003</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1,003</i>
	<u><i>121,704</i></u>	<u><i>157,091</i></u>	<u><i>278,795</i></u>

9 Other	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Independent Examination	649	-	649	590
Statutory accounts preparation	365	-	365	394
	<u>1,014</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,014</u>	<u>984</u>

Other prior year - all unrestricted

10 Extraordinary item

In the reporting period, the charity incurred costs of £7,086 related to a resurfaced corporation tax liability from 2018-19 trading activities, prior to the incorporation of Aid Box Trading Limited. This cost is not expected to recur in future periods.

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025****11 Net incoming resources for the year**

This is stated after charging:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Independent Examiner's fee	649	590

12 Staff Costs and numbers

The aggregate payroll costs were:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	198,643	175,881
Social Security Costs	9,204	7,286
Pension Costs	3,859	3,217
	<u>211,706</u>	<u>186,384</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 (2024: £Nil)

The average monthly head count was 11 staff members (2024: 10)

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the board of trustees & two directors. The total employee benefits of key management personnel, during the year, total £72,121 (2024: £68,860).

13 Related Party Transactions

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2024: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2024: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2024: £nil).

Aid Box Trading Ltd (Company number 12319337) is the wholly owned subsidiary of Aid Box Community. During the year Aid Box Trading Ltd gifted profits from its trading activities to Aid Box Community of £31,010 (2024: £30,091).

During the year, Aid Box Community charged Aid Box Trading Ltd £2,033 (2024: £2,174) for staff time. This year, there was no service charge on an intercompany loan (2024: £500).

Peter Kent was a trustee of Aid Box Community and a director of Aid Box Trading Ltd. He resigned from both posts on 13th October 2024

Lucy Middelboe is a trustee of Aid Box Community and was appointed as a director of Aid Box Trading Ltd on 13th October 2024.

Other than disclosed above, there were no other related party transactions during the year.

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025****14 Corporation Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

15 The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at year end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on assets of the CIO.

16 Debtors	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	11,085	50,961
Other debtors	4,996	22,000
Prepayments	16,426	3,862
	<u>32,507</u>	<u>76,823</u>

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	3,607	1,219
Social Security and Taxes	2,962	3,135
Deferred income	20,000	-
Accruals	4,353	984
	<u>30,922</u>	<u>5,338</u>

18 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises income from charitable activities relating to future periods.

	£
Balance as at 1 April 2024	-
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	-
Amount deferred in year	20,000
Balance as at 31 March 2025 (see note 17)	<u>20,000</u>

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025****18 Analysis of Charitable Funds**

	01-Apr 2024	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	At 31-Mar 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	307,130	235,331	(253,291)	-	289,170
Designated funds					
Premises fund	80,000	-	(1,200)	-	78,800
Total unrestricted funds	<u>387,130</u>	<u>235,331</u>	<u>(254,491)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>367,970</u>
Restricted funds					
Bristol City Council	-	35,000	(35,000)	-	-
Green Hall Foundation	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
AB Charitable Trust	-	4,000	(3,075)	-	925
National Lottery Community Fund	-	60,000	(60,000)	-	-
Festival Medical Services	-	9,798	(678)	-	9,120
Swan Mountain	4,000	-	(4,000)	-	-
Schroder Charity Trust	-	4,000	(4,000)	-	-
Wessex Water	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
SFX Foundation	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Donations	-	1,442	(1,000)	-	442
Total restricted funds	<u>4,000</u>	<u>123,240</u>	<u>(111,753)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,487</u>
Total funds	<u>391,130</u>	<u>358,571</u>	<u>(366,244)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>383,457</u>

Purpose of restricted funds

Bristol City Council	A one-year grant starting in September 2024 to provide essential items via the Free Shop for sanctuary seekers in Bristol, including for those in contingency hotels. To also provide community integration and social interactions for sanctuary seekers through volunteering opportunities, befriending and activity programmes. An additional grant was made available during the year to provide replacement essential items and support to hotel residents impacted by a public health incident.
Green Hall Foundation AB Charitable Trust	Towards the cost of running the Free Shop for refugees and asylum seekers in Bristol. Emergency Solidarity Fund grant to respond to the harms and threats related to the violence that took place across the UK in the summer 2024. This was used to purchase CCTV equipment, and to provide additional training and wellbeing support to staff and trustees. The remaining balance will be used for additional security measures at our new premises.
National Lottery Community Fund	Supporting Asylum Seekers and Refugees Together project over three years, starting in January 2024, and supporting The Welcome Hub and Free Shop.
Festival Medical Services	A one-year grant starting in January 2025 to provide multi-sport group activities and nature walks to refugees and people seeking asylum.
Swan Mountain	Towards the cost of providing a women's sports group and a mixed gardening group.
Schroder Charity Trust	Towards the cost of running the Free Shop for refugees and asylum seekers in Bristol.
Wessex Water	Towards the cost of running the Free Shop for refugees and asylum seekers in Bristol.

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025****Purpose of restricted funds continued**

SFX Foundation	Funding to enhance the outdoor space at our new premises, including installing railings, a seating area, a covered buggy park and bike racks.
Donations	A donation from Bristol Celtic Supporters Club towards the cost of essential aid items at the Free Shop; and donations towards the costs of trips to the Community Farm and We The Curious.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Cash at Bank and in Hand	287,585	78,800	15,487	381,872
Other Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)	1,585	-	-	1,585
Total	289,170	78,800	15,487	383,457

Analysis of net assets - prior year

	<i>General Fund £</i>	<i>Designated Funds £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds £</i>	<i>Total £</i>
Cash at Bank and in Hand	235,645	80,000	4,000	319,645
Other Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)	71,485	-	-	71,485
Total	307,130	80,000	4,000	391,130

20 Analysis of prior year funds, as required by paragraph 4.2. of the SORP

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Income and Endowments From:			
Donations and legacies	222,467	119,478	341,945
Charitable activities	-	45,000	45,000
Investments	1,294	-	1,294
Total	223,761	164,478	388,239
Expenditure On:			
Raising funds	29,051	27,579	56,630
Charitable activities	121,704	157,091	278,795
Other	984	-	984
Total	151,739	184,670	336,409
Net income/(expenditure)	72,022	(20,192)	51,830
Transfers between funds	(3,429)	3,429	-
Net movement in funds	68,593	(16,763)	51,830
Total funds brought forward	318,537	20,763	339,300
Total Funds Carried Forward	387,130	4,000	391,130

AID BOX COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1172697

Accounts



AID BOX COMMUNITY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Charity Number 1172697

AID BOX COMMUNITY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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AID BOX COMMUNITY

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY AND ITS ADVISORS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Charity Name Aid Box Community

Charity Number 1172697

Registered office and operational address 174b Cheltenham Road, Bristol, BS6 5RE

Trustees **Trustees holding office over the reporting period and newly appointed Trustees:**

Richard Annandale	Trustee	22.10.20
	Chair from	01.02.22
Peter Kent	Trustee	13.10.18
Gillian Nineham	Trustee	13.10.18
Irene Zikusoka	Trustee	22.10.20
Clare McKeown	Trustee	16.06.22
Mariia Burlaka	Trustee	23.01.24
Shelly Ann Deonarine	Trustee	01.01.24
Patricia Ogri	Trustee	23.01.24
Thomas Fallows	Trustee	01.05.24
Joanna Killick	Trustee	23.07.24
Naresh Rao	Trustee	28.01.21 to 28.01.24
Jonny Elphinstone	Trustee	14.07.22 to 23.07.24

Key Personnel Imogen McIntosh Founder and Director of Strategy
Clare Chislett Director of Operations

Bankers Lloyds Bank
Victoria Branch
98 Victoria Street
London SW1E 5JL

Independent Examiner Joanne Trowbridge MAAT
Bristol Community Accountants CIC The Park,
Daventry Road, Bristol BS4 1DQ

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Aid Box Community

The Trustees present the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) as amended by Update Bulletin 2 published in October 2018, effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019.

Legal Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed according to the rules of its CIO Foundation Constitution, registered on 24 April 2017, as amended on 30 May 2018, as further amended on 20 July 2018, and most recently amended on 30 November 2023.

Organisational structure and wider networks

The Charity Trustees manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO.

Aid Box Community is made up of the following team members:

- Trustee Board (Voluntary)
- Service User Advisory Group (Voluntary)
- 356 Volunteers (Voluntary)
- Hub Coordinator (25hrs/week)
- Hub Coordinator (16hrs/week)
- Bookkeeper (16hrs/week Freelance)
- Grants Fundraiser (15hrs/week)
- Comms. and Local Fundraiser (25hrs/week)
- Charity Administrator (15hrs/week)
- Volunteer Coordinator & Connections Manager (22hrs/week)
- Activity Groups Coordinator (15hrs/week)
- Activity Groups Facilitator (12hrs/week)
- Founder and Director of Strategy (25hrs/week)
- Director of Operations (25hrs/week)
- Donations and Driving Support (15 hrs/week)

Partners

We work very closely with the other main Refugee support services in the city including:

- British Red Cross
- Bristol Refugee Rights
- Borderlands
- Unseen
- The Haven (NHS)
- Refugee Women of Bristol

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

- Bridges for Community
- Bristol Hospitality Network
- Bristol City Council
- Bristol Refugee Festival
- Project Mama

Bristol Refugee and Asylum seeker Partnership (BRASP)

We are one of 15 organisations within the BRASP partnership that has been developing since 2020 to formalise our systems of working together, improve communication with one another, reduce the chances of duplication and competition for funding and increase organisational efficiencies, thus providing better services, support and outcomes to refugees and asylum seekers.

BRASP Vision: All refugees and asylum seekers enjoy healthy and fulfilling lives in Bristol, have a voice and their needs are met by an effective, unified and sustainable sector.

We are proud to be an integral part of Bristol's active humanitarian community and work alongside many community-led groups.

Over 45 organisations refer refugees and asylum seekers to us.

Trustee selection methods

Trustees are appointed by the existing trustees normally after open advertisement and interview.

Induction and training of trustees

This is undertaken by a combination of key governance information and practical sessions.

New Trustees are involved in an Induction Plan under which they receive

- Key charity documents
- Mandatory Reading material
- Mandatory Training
- Highly Recommended Training

The purposes of the Charity as set out in its governing document

The relief of financial hardship, and assistance of, refugees, asylum seekers and their dependants in the UK by providing free essential living items, emergency support, opportunities for community engagement, recreation, preparation for employment and access to other necessary support services.

Working with other organizations to enhance the positive impact of services supporting refugees and people seeking asylum.

Undertaking such other charitable purposes for the public benefit and for the benefit of those seeking asylum, and for those granted refugee status, and their dependants as the trustees shall determine.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in compliance with this guidance
(see pages 5-10 for further detail on activities)

- Free Shop and Welcome Hub open 5 days a week Monday – Friday
- Activities groups, trips and retreats
- Connections Befriending service
- Signposting.
- Welfare support and Crisis Fund – practical or financial support
- Bus Fund

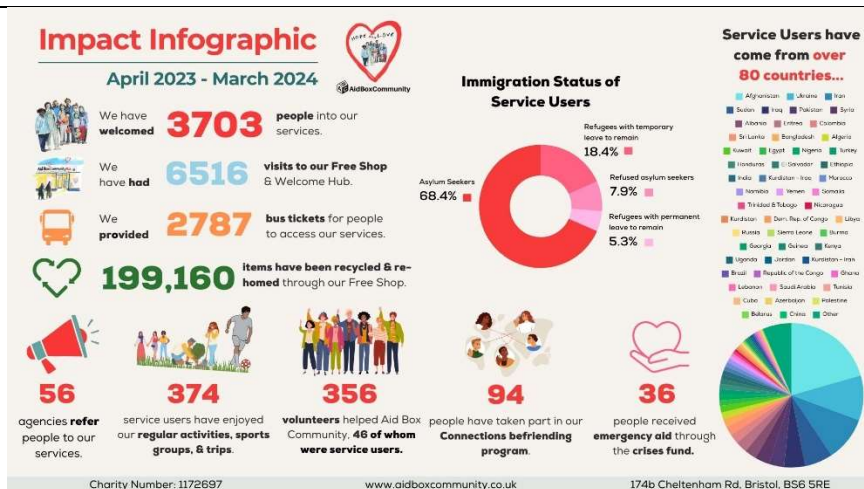
▪ **Summary of the main achievements of the Charity during the year**

Service	2021-2022	2022 -2023	2023-2024
Bus Fares given	1188	3045	2787
Free Shop beneficiaries	2185 visits	4730 visits	6516 visits / 3703 beneficiaries
Welfare and Crisis Fund support	8 beneficiaries	23 beneficiaries	36 beneficiaries
Groups and trips	200 beneficiaries	286 beneficiaries	374 beneficiaries
Connections Program (people taking part)	79	84	94
Number of Items donated, recycled and rehomed	Data not available	135,440	199,160
Volunteers supporting ABC	140	272	356
Percentage of people that said 'Yes' when asked if ABC made a positive impact on their and their family's life. 79 people participated in the survey	Data not available	96%	96%

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024



We have welcomed 3703 people to our free shop and welcome hub, from over 80 countries, 374 have attended our groups and trips, 94 people have taken part in our connections program and 72% of those are still friends today. We have recycled 199,160 items through our free shop. Out of 79 participants who answered our end of year survey, 96% of service users said ABC had made a positive impact on them and their family's life.

The year 2023-24 has been marked by an unpredictable and hostile political environment, significant changes to asylum policies, particularly with the introduction of the Illegal Migration Act. Despite these challenges, our charity has navigated the complexities of the environment and managed to deliver a high-quality service to thousands of refugees and asylum seekers in Bristol.

The introduction of the Illegal Migration Act brought about substantial changes to the asylum system, aiming to deter illegal migration and expedite the removal of those without a legitimate right to stay. This legislative shift has, however, resulted in the rapid dispersal of hundreds of asylum seekers from various hotels in Bristol, causing a severe strain on our services due to inadequate notice and support. While we have seen an increase in positive asylum decisions, the lack of adequate post-decision support and the sudden evacuation of hotels have created an atmosphere of uncertainty and stress within the community and some people becoming homeless as a result. Despite these challenges, our charity remains resilient and committed to providing high-quality services to those in need.

Change in Staffing

In June our grants and trusts fundraiser, left us and we quickly recruited to fill the position with an excellent replacement who took up the role with enthusiasm and dedication. Our activity groups coordinator also moved on in July and we took the opportunity for the director team to run the Women's Group, connect with the women and reach out to them for feedback. Following this, and with a clear sense of the direction and needs of the group, we recruited a new activity groups coordinator in November with excellent results.

Premises

As the year progressed so did the pressure on our Free Shop as more hotels opened to house asylum seekers in and around Bristol. We had to find ways to improve our efficiency at the shop including the implementation of an appointment system. The premises continue to present challenges for our staff and volunteers due to limitations imposed by the size and condition. We are actively searching

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

for new larger premises where we can expand our free shop and bring together many of our other services.

Lived Experience at ABC

It is imperative to ABC that we have people with lived experience helping to steer the direction of the charity and being provided with opportunities to volunteer and gain employment both within, and outside, the organisation. In January we recruited 3 new trustees to the board, all with lived experience of the asylum system. We have also formulated a Lived Experience policy and procedure as well as forming a Lived Experience committee which is now meeting quarterly. The Lived Experience committee will ensure that ABC complies with our policy and procedures around lived experience and equity.

Volunteer Statistics

Total volunteers: 356

Total volunteer hours: 21197

Total service user volunteers: 46

Activity Groups and Trips Programme

This year has not been straightforward as we have faced various challenges. However, we are now in a much stronger position than we were a year ago with a fantastic team of committed volunteers and staff and new activities happening based on feedback from service users about their needs and preferences.

Our women's group has increased in popularity after consultation with our service users and volunteers and our football groups remain very well attended.

Ferry trips around Bristol Harbour now take place 4 times per year and there are regular trips to the Community Farm. Our gardening group is now up and running and we have plans for 3 more new groups in the spring. Our cookery and swimming collaborations are also still running smoothly.

Weekly Groups

Group	Description	Dates & Time
Women's Group	Women-only group where members socialise, practise and learn new skills, and have fun!	When: Every Monday (term-time only), from 11.00 am - 1 pm Where: Trinity Centre, Trinity Rd, BS2 0NW
Women-only Swimming	Beginner swimming lessons for women in partnership with Open Minds Active.	When: Every Monday (term-time only), from 10.45 am - 11.30 am. Where: Hengrove Leisure Centre, Hengrove Promenade, Bristol, BS14 0DE
Outdoor Men Football	Members play and practise football outside in a team!	When: Every Tuesday from 3 pm - 5 pm. Where: Lockleaze Sports Centre, Bonnington Walk, Lockleaze, Bristol, BS7 9XF
Indoor Men	Members play and practise	When: Every Wednesday from 2 pm - 4

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Football	football inside with a team!	pm. Where: Easton Leisure Centre, Thrissell St, South Bank, Bristol, BS5 0SW
Gardening Group (mixed gender & non-binary)	Members grow vegetables, herbs and flowers (which are then used and consumed by group) and learn about gardening. In partnership with Bridge Farm Community.	When: Every Wednesday from 10 am - 12.30 pm. Where: Bridge Farm, Glenfrome Road, BS16 1BQ
Cookery Classes (mixed gender & non-binary)	Members can learn and teach how to cook multicultural meals and eat as a community. In partnership with Coexist Community Kitchen.	Every Monday for 6 weeks. 29 th of January – 4 th of March
Farm Trips	Service Users have a chance to visit a working farm, connect with nature and get out of the city.	Bi-monthly trips
Ferry Trips	This year we celebrated Eid and Christmas with ferry trips around the harbour with food and gifts for participants	4 Ferry Trips – two in summer, one in winter and one in spring.

Activity Groups Feedback

Women's Group

'When I join Women's Group, I feel like I have lots of sisters and warm friends.'

'ABC has helped me in many ways, ABC is a hope for me in times of need.'

'I feel like I joined my family and friends.'

'I really feel confident and happy.'

'A safe haven.'

'It's outstanding helpful organisation I have ever met.'

'I feel so much proud of myself, love and welcome always.'

'It gives me a chance to get to know and help and enjoy the company of the women who come to the women's group.'

Women-Only Swimming Group

'Life changing service for me, I always had water phobia and was scared of water but when ABC gave me chance to learn swimming with women-only I get confidence to deal with my fear and can learn swimming.'

Outdoor & Indoor Men's Football Groups

'My experience with ABC Football has been extremely positive. It's not just about improving my athletic skills but also about socialising and learning from others. It's been a great opportunity to enhance my English skills as well, interacting with teammates and coaches who speak the language.'

'ABC football has been a life changing experience. Life in a new city with no friends can be boring and depressing but the ABC football, you find a community, welcoming and friendly strange faces who with time becomes irresistible to disconnect with. I have personally enjoyed being part of the activity [...]. The football leads are immensely supportive and always make sure that players stick to rules and keep them safe. The bus ticket saves a lot as well and therefore one has no choice but to join the activity.'

'My experience with ABC Football has been an amazing one. Not only does it keep me engaged in football activities but also helped me with my social life in this new community and environment.'

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Gardening Group

'I enjoy gardening group, first the people that welcomed me and made me feel part of them. Then introduced me to new things like how seeds grow into plants'

'I do very much enjoy gardening and being with the garden group taught me a lot. This group has also helped me with my mental health once I am with group members doing workshop, I feel relief and I find myself wanting to learn more.'

Cookery Class Group (6 weeks)

'Thank you for a wonderful time. That we were all together.'

Free Shop & Welcome Hub

There have been multiple changes this year as we have navigated increased numbers. An appointment system was implemented to allow people to shop with dignity and reduce the queues outside the shop. Despite the small space with limited facilities, the welcome area is well used with tea, coffee and snacks on offer and our volunteers and service users able to chat and mingle when there is a lull in the numbers in the shop.

There has been an increase in the number of service users being made homeless and we have responded by distributing tents, sleeping mats, sleeping bags and wet weather gear.

We have stepped up our admin processes to improve fair aid distribution as well as more purchasing from our essential aid fund and outreach programme.

As mentioned, we are still challenged by the constraints of space and disrepair of the building and are taking steps to move to larger premises within the coming months.

Free Shop Feedback

'I was aiming to change the world and making a better place to live. It was all my parents taught me. I could not even change the regime ruling over my beautiful motherland and kind people, but it warms up my cold and tired heart to see there is still people who care about other humans. we cannot appreciate you enough. I know how it feels to be ashamed because you cannot provide your children with their primary needs due to not being allowed to work nor getting enough money as an asylum seeker. I also know how heartening it would be for a father to see their children have met their needs. you have been bringing that happiness to numerous families. May you and your loved ones always met your needs and happiness. '

'We with my mother become more open, have obtained support we needed when we first came here. Through ABC I also found information about organisation called WEA where I finished my community interpreting course with distinction. This will probably be my career path.'

'By helping me and my family with household items and clothing and through ABC I have made friends in the community.'

'You take away my pain and give me peace. I can't provide for my children but when I return home with the clothes, I bring back for them, their eyes light up.'

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Crisis Fund

This year we opened our crisis fund for BRASP partners to refer into. For people who meet the criteria, a maximum of £500 can be applied for. This year we have supported 36 people through our crisis fund.

Criteria:

To access the ABC Crisis Fund these criteria must be met:

- The person must be a refugee, asylum seeker/refused asylum seeker/deemed inadmissible
- The applicant is in crisis and in need of emergency support
- The person must be unable to access this support elsewhere
- Without this support their mental/physical health or asylum claim will be adversely impacted.

Examples

Triple buggy, car seats, fees for exams, laptops, knee braces, train and coach tickets to visit family, help with moving house costs, scans and supplements for medical conditions, nappies, food vouchers, walker for help with disability.

From our Crisis Fund we also supported Bristol Hospitality Network's destitution fund with a donation of £11,700.

Aid Box Connections – Befriending Programme

Our befriending programme was established during the pandemic to address the increased isolation experienced by many of our service users. Displaced people are carefully matched with local volunteers for friendship and support. Each pair is supported throughout the 10-week programme by ABC staff and many friendships continue beyond this time.

The programme is now well established with Connection friends (our service users) reporting many benefits from being involved in the programme: improved mental wellbeing, sense of community, reduced feeling of isolation, improving their English and additionally learning about the local culture here in the UK/Bristol.

Unfortunately, some Connection friends are moved away to other cities. Some do however keep in contact and maintain a friendship with their volunteer friend who continues to provide support at distance.

Connections meet up from halfway through the connections programme if they would like to. Many do this and the collaboration with the Bristol Old Vic (providing hot drinks vouchers for volunteers and their Connection friends) is working well. They also offer to provide theatre tickets.

Connections Feedback

'In a practical way it is helping my English a lot. She is kind, empathic, we laugh a lot – it helps as it been tough these last few weeks.'

'It's really good. I don't know why, it's very very hard for me to connect with people - living in a hostel in the city centre. I would like to see mountains and walk.'

'I feel very comfortable to share with her what's happening to me. She's like a close friend. Really nice person. We have things in common. I don't have time to talk to my close friends from my country. D is there for me.'

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Bus Fares

Transport is one of the biggest barriers to people accessing support so at ABC our policy is to only offer a service if we can provide people who need it with a bus fare. This year we distributed 2787 bus fares.

Signposting

In response to a service user strategy workshop held in July we have developed our signposting guide so that it can be used by our service users as a self-help guide via our website. Using a great translation tool our updated website can now be read in 14 different languages. Our Get Help page directs service users, our staff and volunteers and our partner charities to support that is provided in, and around, the city for Refugees and Asylum Seekers.

Monitoring & Evaluation

This year, we have developed a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework with the support of an expert consultant. This helped to gain comprehensive insights into our work and define measurable and communicable outcomes to ensure that Aid Box Community understands and, crucially, maximises our impact with our service users.

This resulted in the development of Aid Box Community's first impact report that will be used as a template for the future.

Safeguarding and Health and Safety

The Safeguarding and Health and Safety sub-committee meet quarterly, with our DSL and our safeguarding Trustee also meeting monthly to discuss safeguarding concerns including any specific concerns that have been raised.

We had 17 welfare concerns escalated to the DSLs of which 2 safeguarding referrals were made to First Response Bristol City Council.

Challenges

Lack of space at the free shop continues to be a major issue and this year has disappointingly seen several potential properties elude us. When there was a sudden dispersal of 850 asylum seekers from two Bristol hotels within a short period and with very little notice, we had to manage access to the free shop to ensure all those most in need were able to access clothes and other essential items. We worked with the hotels and our partner charities to implement an appointment system enabling people to visit the shop with space and dignity.

We also set up an outreach project working with Care 4 Calais to distribute items directly to the hotels which meant we were able to get essentials to those in need in the hotels very quickly. A local school supported us to collect items for the children and distribute those directly to them as well as from the free shop.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The size of the free shop is now inadequate, not only in terms of space to stock items and for people to browse with dignity, but also to provide a comfortable welcoming area where our service users can relax, chat and enjoy a wider range of facilities including an important signposting service. This is a good opportunity for our staff and volunteers to pick up on any welfare concerns and needs and provide referrals if necessary. We are missing this part of our service. We look forward to moving to a larger space where we can bring back the welcome hub area and will be focusing on this in the coming months.

Funding Channels

Fundraising 2023-2024 Income sources	Budget set	Achieved
Events	£4,777.50	£5,199.58
Corporate donations	£30,000	£9,119.60
Aid Box Trading (Refutrees)	£30,000	£30,091.00
Individual gifts and community fundraising	£53,900	£57,972.69
Grants and Trusts (unrestricted)	£92,000	£95,000.00
Grants & Trusts (restricted)	£85,000	£146,848.27
Council (restricted)	£20,000	£40,000
Misc Sales	0	£2,713.50
Bank interest	0	£1,294.02
Total	£315,677.50	£388,238.66

Grants received 2023-24

Name of Trust	Amount Granted
Restricted Income	
Bristol City Council	40,000
Quartet Express	5,000
Lotteries – Cost of Living Fund	58,478
Lotteries – Community Fund 1/3	30,000
BCC social action Grant	5,000
Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust	3,000
Wessex Water Foundation	4,000
Martin Smith Foundation 3/3	15,000
Swan Mountain Trust	4,000
Unrestricted Income	
Martin Smith Foundation 1/3	25,000
Garfield Weston	25,000
SECL	10,000
AB Charitable Trust 2/3	22,000
Ryklow Charitable Trust	20,000
Nisbet Trust 1/2	15,000

Grants and Trusts successfully secured for 24-25

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Name of Trust	Amount Granted
AB Charitable Trust 3/3	22,000
SECL 2/2	10,000
Lotteries Community Fund	60,000
Nisbet Trust 2/2	15,000
Smith Family foundation	25,000
Other grants	20,000
Total	152,000

Our bank balance on the 31st of March 2024 was £319,644.30. The end of year balance included £105,000 held as reserves, £80,000 designated funds for the move of premises and £4,000 represented restricted funds carried forward to 2024-2025.

Expenditure came in within 2% of budget but despite this we still increased massively our positive impact for our service users compared with last year.

Reserves

Aid Box Community holds reserves in accordance with sound charity governance and financial discipline. The agreed reserves level is reviewed on an annual basis as necessary by the Trustees.

This year reserves have been increased from £96,000 as at the end of the last financial year to £105,000 to cover the predicted increase in rent, bills, payroll, possible redundancy costs, payment of all suppliers, and taxes due should we face a crisis that leads to sudden loss of income and possible closure. If our cash flow is forecast at any point to fall beneath this threshold, this will trigger a discussion between our directors and trustees to determine whether any remedial action needs to be taken to increase income and/or reduce expenditure.

In addition to the overall reserves, Trustees have also set aside a designated fund of £80,000 in preparation for our premises move to cover costs such as additional rent, set up and building costs, and any costs required to put right our existing premises as we move out. Our 2024/25 budget includes £41,500 from the designated fund that is allocated towards the initial cost of the anticipated move in premises. Once the move is complete and any one-off costs are realised, we will remove the remaining money held as the designated fund and either shift any remaining funds back to the operational budget or to be held as reserves, as determined by Trustees.

We will assess the reserves annually as per the Reserves Policy as an integral part of the annual budget setting process and any adjustments to the level of reserves held will be made with trustees approval as necessary.

Note on Carry Forward

It should be noted that the figure in our reserves policy is considered our minimum reserve level. Trustees consider it prudent to end the year with funds available considerably over the reserve level, but we recognise that the closing Bank Balance of £319,644.30 is relatively high for a charity of ABC's size.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

We had planned to see our carry forward position reduce significantly as we anticipated spending more than we raised in 2023-24. However, our planned move did not materialise, and we once again raised more funds than originally budgeted for. This was a result of greater success in our trusts and foundations fundraising, and a specific grant from Bristol City Council that we were not anticipating when the budget was set at the start of the year.

That said, the position we held last year around our large carry forward remains valid: we still aim to find and move into new premises as soon as possible and anticipate that rental prices in Bristol will continue to rise sharply. Given the additional liabilities we will be taking on over a 3 to 5 year lease, we plan once again in 2024/25 to keep our carry forward around the £300,000 mark. We do still plan to grow our income streams in a solid and sustainable manner as we anticipate being able to deliver considerably more services once we have a larger venue. As we move forwards to 2025 and 2026, we will set budgets based on the developing needs of our service users and amount of actual carry forward at each year end. Over time the plan is to set budgets prudently and ensure the carry forward does not dip too close to our minimum reserve which will in any case need to increase if our capacity to deliver our work increases, as anticipated, once we move to a larger venue.

Funds received as agent or funds held as Custodian Trustee

There are no assets, classes of assets or categories of assets held on behalf of other entities.

Independent Examiners

The Trustees confirm that to the best of their knowledge there is no information relevant to the independent examination of which the Examiners are unaware. The Trustees also confirm that they have taken all necessary steps to ensure that they themselves are aware of relevant examination information and that this information has been communicated to the Examiners.

Joanne Trowbridge of Bristol Community Accountants CIC was appointed as the Charity's Independent Examiner during the year. Joanne Trowbridge is a member of the Association of Accounting Technicians.

The report was approved by the Trustees on 26 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

.....

Richard Annandale - Chair

AID BOX COMMUNITY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 15-23.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

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

Independent Examiner's statement

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Association of Accounting Technicians, which is one of the listed bodies.

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:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Joanne Trowbridge MAAT

.....

Date

Bristol Community Accountants CIC
The Park
Daventry Road, Bristol BS4 1DQ

AID BOX COMMUNITY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Incoming and Endowments from:					
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>					
Donations and legacies	3	222,467	164,478	386,945	388,083
Investments	4	1,294	-	1,294	-
Total		223,761	164,478	388,239	388,083
Expenditure On:					
Raising funds	6	7,643	27,579	35,222	31,907
Charitable activities	7	143,112	157,091	300,203	262,612
Other	8	984	-	984	856
Total		151,739	184,670	336,409	295,375
Net income/(expenditure)		72,022	(20,192)	51,830	92,708
Transfers between funds	16	(3,429)	3,429	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) before other gains and losses		68,593	(16,763)	51,830	92,708
Net movement in funds		68,593	(16,763)	51,830	92,708
Total funds brought forward		318,537	20,763	339,300	246,592
Total Funds Carried Forward	16	387,130	4,000	391,130	339,300

All of the activities of the charity are classed as continuing

The notes on pages 17 to 23 form part of these financial statements

As required by paragraph 4.67 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the Balance Sheet.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

BALANCE SHEET

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets			
Debtors	14	76,823	26,656
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>319,645</u>	<u>330,172</u>
<i>Total current assets</i>		<u>396,468</u>	<u>356,828</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	(5,338)	(17,528)
<i>Net current assets or liabilities</i>		<u>391,130</u>	<u>339,300</u>
Total net assets or liabilities		<u><u>391,130</u></u>	<u><u>339,300</u></u>
The Funds of the Charity	17		
Restricted funds		4,000	20,763
Unrestricted funds		387,130	318,537
		<u><u>391,130</u></u>	<u><u>339,300</u></u>

These financial statements were approved by the trustees and are signed on their behalf by:

.....
Richard Annandale - Chair

Date.....

The notes on pages 17 to 23 form part of these financial statements

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Basis of Preparation

- a) These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP(FRS 102)) and with the Charities Act 2011.

- b) Change in basis of preparation

The charity trustees have chosen to prepare the financial statements on the accruals basis. The trustees feel this results in the accounts providing more appropriate and relevant information about the financial performance of the charity. The prior year figures were prepared on a cash basis and have therefore been restated for comparison reason.

- c) The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

- d) The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

2 Accounting Policies

- a) Income from donations is included in income when these are receivable, except as follows:

i) When donors specify that donations given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods.

ii) When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred until the pre-condition have been met.

- b) Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Expenditure includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

- c) Most expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities, and has been included in those cost categories. Support cost have been allocated 100% towards the charitable activities of the charity.

- d) Rentals applicable to operating lease agreements where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

- e) Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

- f) Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

- g) Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset. Depreciation is not charged in the year of purchase:

Motor Vehicles - 25% reducing balance

- h) The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

- i) The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. Pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the charitable company during the year.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Income and Endowments From:

3 Donations and Legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
General Donations	83,345	-	83,345	123,929
Grants	92,370	149,478	241,848	189,777
Grants - Martin Smith Foundation	25,000	15,000	40,000	15,000
Fundraising Events	11,405	-	11,405	37,127
Crowdfunder	-	-	-	7,100
Gift Aid	7,634	-	7,634	13,209
Miscellaneous Income	2,713	-	2,713	1,941
	<u>222,467</u>	<u>164,478</u>	<u>386,945</u>	<u>388,083</u>

<i>Donations and legacies - prior year</i>	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2023
	£	£	£
<i>General Donations</i>	<i>123,748</i>	<i>181</i>	<i>123,929</i>
<i>Grants</i>	<i>84,500</i>	<i>105,277</i>	<i>189,777</i>
<i>Grants - Martin Smith Foundation</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>15,000</i>	<i>15,000</i>
<i>Fundraising Events</i>	<i>37,127</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>37,127</i>
<i>Crowdfunder</i>	<i>7,100</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>7,100</i>
<i>Gift Aid</i>	<i>13,209</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>13,209</i>
<i>Miscellaneous Income</i>	<i>1,941</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1,941</i>
	<u><i>267,625</i></u>	<u><i>120,458</i></u>	<u><i>388,083</i></u>

4 Investments	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest receivable	1,294	-	1,294	-
	<u>1,294</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,294</u>	<u>-</u>

Investments prior year - all unrestricted

5 Government Grants

The charity receives government grants, defined as funding from Bristol City Council to fund charitable activities. The total value of such grants in the period ending 31 March 2024 was £40,000 (2023: £82,687). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants in the year ended 31 March 2024.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Expenditure on:

6 Raising Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising staff costs	3,658	27,579	31,237	21,980
Freelance costs	-	-	-	3,994
Fundraising costs	3,985	-	3,985	5,933
	<u>7,643</u>	<u>27,579</u>	<u>35,222</u>	<u>31,907</u>

Raising Funds prior year

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2023
	£	£	£
Fundraising staff costs	8,266	13,714	21,980
Freelance costs	-	3,994	3,994
Fundraising costs	2,062	3,871	5,933
	<u>10,328</u>	<u>21,579</u>	<u>31,907</u>

7 Charitable Activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	81,703	73,444	155,147	142,522
Freelance costs	-	-	-	4,284
Travel	11,518	-	11,518	16,752
Training and supervision	806	2,520	3,326	2,099
Rent, rates and utilities	2,106	-	2,106	6,506
Refugee, Volunteer and Hub Expenses	18,842	79,869	98,711	54,753
Internet, phone and IT	3,084	5	3,089	5,290
Insurance	925	1,203	2,128	473
Stationery and Printing	-	-	-	1,018
Repairs and Equipment	478	-	478	6,731
Marketing and Subscriptions	4,400	50	4,450	1,780
Professional Fees	371	-	371	272
Bookkeeping and Payroll	16,040	-	16,040	16,848
Bank Charges	1,836	-	1,836	2,846
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	403
Recruitment costs	1,003	-	1,003	35
	<u>143,112</u>	<u>157,091</u>	<u>300,203</u>	<u>262,612</u>

Charitable Activities -prior year

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2023
	£	£	£
Staff costs	108,017	34,505	142,522
Freelance costs	4,284	-	4,284
Travel	(333)	17,085	16,752
Training and supervision	2,039	60	2,099

cont'

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Charitable Activities - prior year cont'

Rent, rates and utilities	5,223	1,283	6,506
Refugee, Volunteer and Hub Expenses	10,993	43,760	54,753
Internet, phone and IT	3,071	2,219	5,290
Insurance	473	-	473
Stationery and Printing	894	124	1,018
Repairs and Equipment	6,464	267	6,731
Marketing and Subscriptions	245	1,535	1,780
Professional Fees	272	-	272
Bookkeeping and Payroll	16,848	-	16,848
Bank Charges	2,810	36	2,846
Miscellaneous	403	-	403
Recruitment costs	35	-	35
	<u>161,738</u>	<u>100,874</u>	<u>262,612</u>

8 Other	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Independent Examination and accounts preparation fee	984	-	984	856
	<u>984</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>984</u>	<u>856</u>

Other prior year - all unrestricted

9 Net incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Independent Examiner's fee	590	562
	<u>590</u>	<u>562</u>

10 Staff Costs and numbers

The aggregate payroll costs were:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	175,881	133,205
Social Security Costs	7,286	6,342
Pension Costs	3,217	2,975
	<u>186,384</u>	<u>142,522</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 (2023: £Nil)

The average monthly head count was 10 staff (2023: 9)

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the board of trustees & two directors. The total employee benefits of 2024:2 (2023:2) key management personnel, during the year, total £68,860 (2023: £63,079).

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

11 Related Party Transactions

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2023: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2023: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2023: £nil).

Aid Box Trading Ltd (Company number 12319337) is the wholly owned subsidiary of Aid Box Community. During the year Aid Box Trading Ltd gifted profits from their trading activities to Aid Box Community of £30,091 (2023: £30,000). During the year, Aid Box Community made loans to Aid Box Trading Ltd totalling £10,000 (2023: £12,000). As at 31 March 2024 Aid Box Trading Ltd owed Aid Box Community £30,091 (2023: £2,371).

Peter Kent is a trustee of Aid Box Community and was appointed as a director of Aid Box Trading Ltd on 30 August 2022.

Other than disclosed above, there were no other related party transactions during the year.

12 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

- 13 The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at year end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on assets of the CIO.

14 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade Debtors	50,961	17,367
Other debtors	22,000	2,398
Pre payments	3,862	6,891
	<u>76,823</u>	<u>26,656</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	1,219	14,488
Social Security and Taxes	3,135	2,184
Accruals and deferred Income	984	856
	<u>5,338</u>	<u>17,528</u>

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

16 Analysis of Charitable Funds

	01-Apr 2023	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	At 31-Mar 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	318,537	223,761	(151,739)	(83,429)	307,130
Designated funds					
Permisses fund	-	-	-	80,000	80,000
Total unrestricted funds	318,537	223,761	(151,739)	(3,429)	387,130
Restricted funds					
Martin Smith Foundation - Fundraiser	-	15,000	(18,201)	3,201	-
Wessex Water	-	4,000	(4,000)	-	-
Bristol City Council	14,914	40,000	(54,926)	12	-
Borderlands (Southwest) Limited	2,138	-	(2,138)	-	-
Red Cross	3,711	-	(3,865)	154	-
Anton Jurgen	-	3,000	(3,007)	7	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	88,478	(88,525)	47	-
Quartet Express Grant	-	10,000	(10,008)	8	-
Swan Mountain	-	4,000	-	-	4,000
Total restricted funds	20,763	164,478	(184,670)	3,429	4,000
Total funds	339,300	388,239	(336,409)	-	391,130

Purpose of restricted funds

Martin Smith Foundation	Fundraiser salary
Wessex Water - Hub project	Hub Project
Bristol City Council	Co-ordination and delivery of donations for Afghan refugees, response to Ukraine war and provision of ABC services to arrivals at New Hotel
Borderlands (Southwest) Limited	To provide essential living items to the residents of the Filton Hotel
Red Cross - Ukraine Support Fund Programme	Hub Project costs
Anton Jurgen	Welcome Hub and Free shop for refugees and asylum seekers
National Lottery Community Fund	Supporting Asylum Seekers and Refugees Together project over 3 years and supporting The Welcome Hub and Free Shop.
Quartet Express Grant	Support the Community Hub
Swan Mountain WG	Women's sports group and mixed gardening group

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Cash at Bank and in Hand	235,645	80,000	4,000	319,645
Other Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)	71,485	-	-	71,485
Total	307,130	80,000	4,000	391,130

Analysis of net assets - prior year

	<i>General Fund £</i>	<i>Designated Funds £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds £</i>	<i>Total £</i>
Cash at Bank and in Hand	309,409	-	20,763	330,172
Other Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)	9,128	-	-	9,128
Total	318,537	-	20,763	339,300

18 Analysis of prior year funds, as required by paragraph 4.2. of the SORP

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Income and Endowments From:			
Donations and legacies	267,625	120,458	388,083
Investments	-	-	-
Total	267,625	120,458	388,083
Expenditure On:			
Raising funds	10,328	21,579	31,907
Charitable activities	161,738	100,874	262,612
Other	856	-	856
Total	172,922	122,453	295,375
Net income/(expenditure)	94,703	(1,995)	92,708
Transfers between funds	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	94,703	(1,995)	92,708
Total funds brought forward	223,834	22,758	246,592
Total Funds Carried Forward	318,537	20,763	339,300

AID BOX COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1172697

Accounts



AID BOX COMMUNITY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Charity Number 1172697

AID BOX COMMUNITY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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AID BOX COMMUNITY**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY AND ITS ADVISORS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Charity Name Aid Box Community**Charity Number** 1172697**Registered office and operational address** 174b Cheltenham Road, Bristol, BS6 5RE**Trustees** **Our Current Trustees are:**

Richard Annandale	Trustee	22.10.20
	Chair	01.02.22
Peter Kent	Trustee	13.10.18
Gillian Nineham	Trustee	13.10.18
Irene Zikusoka	Trustee	22.10.20
Naresh Rao	Trustee, Treasurer	28.01.21
Clare McKeown	Trustee	16.06.22
Jonny Elphinstone	Trustee	14.07.22

Key Personnel	Imogen McIntosh	Founder and Director of Strategy
	Clare Chislett	Director of Operations

Bankers Lloyds Bank
174b Cheltenham Road
Bristol
BS6 5RE

Independent Examiner Joanne Trowbridge MAAT
Bristol Community Accountants CIC The Park,
Davenry Road, Bristol BS4 1DQ

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Aid Box Community

The Trustees present the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) as amended by Update Bulletin 2 published in October 2018, effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019.

Legal Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed according to the rules of its CIO Foundation Constitution, registered on 24 April 2017, as amended on 30 May 2018, as further amended on 20 July 2018.

Organisational structure and wider networks

The Charity Trustees manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO.

Aid Box Community is made up of the following team members:

- Trustee Board (Voluntary)
- Service User Advisory Group (Voluntary)
- 272 Volunteers (Voluntary)
- Hub Coordinator (25hrs/week)
- Hub Coordinator (12hrs/week)
- Bookkeeper (16hrs/week Freelance)
- Grants Fundraiser (15hrs/week Freelance)
- Comms. and Local Fundraiser (24hrs/week)
- Charity Administrator (15hrs/week)
- Volunteer Coordinator & Connections Manager (22hrs/week)
- Activity Groups Coordinator (20hrs/week)
- Activity Groups Facilitator (10hrs/week)
- Founder and Director of Strategy (30hrs/week)
- Director of Operations (24hrs/week)

We are an active member of the Bristol Refugee and Asylum Seeker Partnership (BRASP), which was formed 2 years ago by 15 organisations with the dual objectives of enhancing collaboration and communication amongst charities providing services in the city.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

We work very closely with the other main Refugee support services in the city including:

- British Red Cross
- Bristol Refugee Rights
- Borderlands
- Unseen
- The Haven (NHS)
- Refugee Women of Bristol
- Bridges for Community
- Bristol Hospitality Network
- Bristol City Council
- Bristol Refugee Festival
- Project Mama

We are proud to be an integral part of Bristol's active humanitarian community and work alongside many community led groups.

We receive referrals from over 45 organisations.

Trustee selection methods

Trustees are appointed by the existing trustees, normally after open advertisement and interview.

Induction and training of trustees

This is undertaken by a combination of practical sessions and provision of key governance information.

The Induction Pack for new Trustees includes the following documents: -

- Our Constitution
- The CIO's latest Trustees Annual Report and Statement of Accounts
- Code of Conduct policy
- Conflicts of Interest policy
- Data Protection/ GDPR policies
- Disclosure Check policy
- Staff handbook
- Finance handbook

In addition, Trustees have approved the following organisational policies: -

- Lone Working
- Safeguarding Adults Policy
- Safeguarding Children Policy

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

- Remuneration Policy
- Finance Manual

The purposes of the Charity as set out in its governing document

The relief of Poverty and financial hardship of Refugees and Asylum Seekers in the United Kingdom for the public benefit by providing free and essential living items. Promoting the integration of Refugees and Asylum Seekers through the signposting of partner services for practical help in housing, legal advice and medical help.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in compliance with this guidance

- Free Shop and Welcome Hub
- Activity groups, trips, and retreats
- Connections Befriending service: 3 - 4 connections programs per year
- Welfare: signposting, 1-1 support
- Crisis Fund: practical or financial support with personal/family crisis

Summary of the main achievements of the Charity during the year

Service	Numbers of People who have used the services	
	2021-2022	2022 -2023
Bus Fares	1188	3045
Free Shop	2185	4730
Crisis Fund	8	23
Groups and trips	200	286
Connections Program	79	84
Other		
Number of Items donated, Recycled and rehomed	Data not available	135,440
Volunteers supporting ABC	140	272

We have welcomed 4730 people to our free shop and welcome hub, from 46 countries. 286 people have attended our groups and trips. 84 people have taken part in our connections program and 75% of those are still friends. We have recycled 135,440 items through our free shop and in our end of year survey 98% of service users said our services had made a positive impact on them and their family's life.

"So, this is really our place, it's our house, it's a way really, At Aid Box Community we feel that we are human." - Norbert

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Since March 2022, Bristol has welcomed 600 people from Ukraine (314 adults plus their dependants) through the government's Homes for Ukraine scheme whilst continuing to respond to the needs of people arriving from Afghanistan into Bristol hotels (484 adults plus dependants).

At the beginning of the year Bristol had 2 IA (Initial Accommodation) Hotels with approximately 200 residents. This year three more hotels in Bristol and one in Filton (South Gloucestershire) opened accommodating approximately 500 people at any one time. We have recently been informed that a further hotel will open imminently in the city centre accommodating 440 residents.

The past 6 months have seen a further rise in the number of hotels being used across the UK to accommodate asylum seekers and refugees on Government resettlement schemes, often in isolated and ill-equipped areas. In the Southwest there are 25 hotels, and we are seeing people from as far afield as Sedgemoor regularly accessing our hub and free shop.

In response to this huge increase in demand, over the past year we expanded our services. The Free Shop moved from opening 3 to 5 days a week resulting in us doubling the number of service users accessing the shop. We increased our activity group program from 3 to 7 activities a week with 100 extra people benefiting from the service. And we now run an additional yearly connections program. In difficult circumstances post Pandemic, and with a cost-of-living crisis emerging, we have been able both to increase output in a number of key areas and increase the desired outcomes for our service users.

We have received funding from Bristol City Council to provide school uniforms and also offer our services to all Ukrainian families, as well as for those here on the Afghan resettlement scheme.

As ABC has moved from a small to medium sized charity, we have restructured our staff team and welcomed 3 new members of staff.

Change in Staffing

Clare Chislett underwent a successful 6-month training program and is now Director of Operations working alongside Imogen, Founder and Director of Strategy, together leading the charity. This has meant that essential systems and processes have been developed enabling ABC to move into the next phase in an efficient and sustainable way. More time has been devoted to Fundraising and strategy, staff support and development, Health and Safety and safeguarding with immediate results and we end this year in a very healthy position overall.

The entire team have settled into their new, and often expanding, roles and have achieved a high standard of work. We are making continual improvements to our services, reflecting always feedback from our service users. We are ensuring ABC is out in the public domain and meeting the huge demand. The team really are incredible, a great support to each other and

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

so passionate about the charity and the cause. And the huge contribution provided by our amazing volunteers has been incalculable.

Over the past few months, we have seen an increase in welfare and safeguarding concerns and suspect this is because of the cost-of-living rise and the continuing anti-refugee rhetoric in the news. There have been protests outside hotels, letters from the Home Office with threats of deportation to Rwanda, and now Asylum Claim questionnaires that need to be filled out in English within 21 days by Asylum Seekers, all creating huge amounts of stress and uncertainty in the sector.

In May we were donated a free office space in Portland Square by Kate Hargreaves, owner of Living Learning English. This has been a game changer for the team. It has really helped connect us all. Most of the team who had normally been working from home are working from the office several days a week. We now have a great space to use for meetings and work on projects together and, as a result, the team have really gelled.

After months of pro bono work from GRAYCE, and extensive input from our directors, our new database is now being rolled out across all ABC services. Feedback so far is positive, and it will greatly enhance our ability to monitor and evaluate the impact of our services on our users as well as being used for all services to replace several existing overlapping databases.

Imogen has been part of the BRASP Steering Group and has proposed a joint training program to the group where BRASP would coordinate training for the refugee sector. This has received an enthusiastic response, and the proposal will be developed at future BRASP meetings and away days.

The increase in demand at the Free Shop, allied to the expiry of our lease in 15 months, have led us to look for new premises as a priority and we now have a network of people helping us with our search. After consulting with agents and Bristol City Council about what is available in Bristol, we have increased our budget so that we can find premises at least three times the size of our current building. This will enable us to expand the size of our free shop and bring the majority of our services under one roof, all beneficial to our service users.

Strategy: Lived Experience at ABC

Staff members with lived experience may need additional support and this must be provided with sensitivity depending on the needs of the individual. It is very important to understand that a role occupied by a person with lived experience may not be on a 'like for like' basis and so we must put in place systems and procedures to recognise this and adapt our practices accordingly. This is something that the whole sector is working towards, and our next Best Practice Meeting is devoted to sharing experiences and practices related to this topic. We recognise the enormous value that can be brought to our charity by people with lived experience at both trustee and staff levels and we are actively looking to increase our numbers whenever vacancies are identified or arise.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Volunteers are key to our existence as a charity. Without their incalculable contributions we would be unable to deliver our services.

Contribution of volunteers

Total Registered Volunteers: 272

Total volunteer hours: 22639

Free shop – 45 volunteers (10 of whom have lived experience)

Connections – 45 volunteers

Groups – 14 volunteers

Refutrees – 145 volunteers

Groups and Trips Program

As well as our own women's groups and men's football groups we have been strengthening our partnerships with Open Minds Active, Bristol Yoga Roots Project, The Community Farm and Coexist Community Kitchen, as well as creating a new partnership with Bristol Tree Craft, to deliver a diverse range of activities for the benefit of our service users.

Weekly Groups

Monday- Term Time only Women only Open Mind Active swimming lessons

Monday- Term Time only Women 11am-1pm Social and activities

Tuesday Men only, over 18 year Social Group

Tuesday Men only, over 18 years 11am-1pm Football

Wednesday Men only, over 18 years 2pm-4pm Football Easton

Thursday Women Yoga with Bristol Yoga Roots

Annual Trips

- 6 Day Trips to The Community Farm in Blagdon – mixed groups of approx. 15 people each trip, a total of 35 beneficiaries
- 2 x Weekend retreats - Hill House retreat, Stroud. Weekend retreat for 13 people, mixed groups – relaxation and wellbeing –total beneficiaries: 26
- 2 x Ferry Trips for families: 60 beneficiaries

Women's Group

"This place (women's group) is the only place I rest."

Trauma Informed Swimming Lessons

"Taking a swimming lesson is like a dream come through, achieving a goal I wouldn't have imagined...in a more conducive environment, with the help of loving, caring and patient Open Minds Active team. It's a beautiful experience and a great opportunity for me. Many thanks to you all."

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Men's Social Group

"It's such a comfortable atmosphere where we can meet lovely and supportive people and they are always ready to listen and to share stories, and it's the perfect place to make some friends from the refugee community or from the local one. "

Men's Football Group

"Seeking asylum is one of the most traumatic experiences anyone can find themselves in and this can lead to devastating health crisis. Joining the men football team gives an atmosphere of serenity, a sense of belonging and feeling of integration in the community again."

Crisis Fund – we hold a small fund dedicated to helping asylum seekers in crisis, when support through other routes has been exhausted.

23 people were supported this year through our Crisis Fund.

Bus Fares

3045

Signposting and welfare support including a welfare check, referral to another service, a job reference, support letter for their asylum claim

Over 234 people were signposted to other services.

Welfare and Safeguarding reported internally

2022-2023	Safeguarding	Welfare	Staff Welfare	Total Concerns
Quarter 1	1	2	0	3
Quarter 2	1	0	0	1
Quarter 3	3	3	0	6
Quarter 4	3	4	5	12
Total	8	9	5	22

Safeguarding and Health and Safety

We have seen an increase in incidents and welfare concerns over the past few months. This may be due to staff reporting more concerns following better processes and more staff training we have put in place.

The Safeguarding and Health and Safety sub-committee meet quarterly, with Imogen our DSL and our Safeguarding Trustee meeting monthly to review any safeguarding incidents and concerns.

Two safeguarding concerns were escalated and reported to the Safeguarding First Response at Bristol City Council.

Challenges

- This year has seen problems with the building and uncooperative landlords. We made the decision to close for a week in September for safety reasons and continue to navigate issues with the building.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

- The Hub (our Free Shop) has at times become almost unmanageable due to its size restrictions and we have become accustomed to having queues outside. We have restricted numbers inside the hub to keep the environment safe and dignified for all.
- The size of the hub is also a challenge in terms of managing donations due to the lack of storage and a large enough space to sort and test donations. There have been times when we have had to close for an hour just to sort incoming donations so as to avoid safety hazards.
- There have been some recent incidents of hostility relating to restrictions on the amount of aid people are allowed to take and the number of times they are allowed to visit.
- Some hotel residents have also been taking too many items. This has been a challenge to manage but has been resolved and we have taken away learning on how to manage this issue going forward.
- We anticipate being able to minimize these challenges when we move into new larger premises.

Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set

Funding Channels

Fundraising 2022-2023 Income sources	Budget set	Achieved
Events	13,000.00	27,995.31
Corporate donations	17,500.00	37,478.64
Aid Box Trading (Refutrees)	30,000.00	34,710.00
Individual gifts and community fundraising	73,000.00	81,181.30
Miscellaneous income	0	1,941.15
Grants and Trusts (unrestricted)	60,000.00	84,500.00
Grants & Trusts (restricted)	30,000.00	37,590.00
Council (restricted)	40,600.00	82,687.00
Total	264,100.00	388,083.40

Grants received 2022-23

Name of Trust	Granted
Restricted Income	
Bristol City Council	£29,520.00
Bristol City Council	£25,000.00
Bristol City Council - Hampton Hotel	£20,000.00
South Gloucester Council	£8,167.00
Open Minds Active	£1, 590.00
29th May 1961 Charitable Trust	£3,000.00
Swan Mountain	£4,500.00

AID BOX COMMUNITY

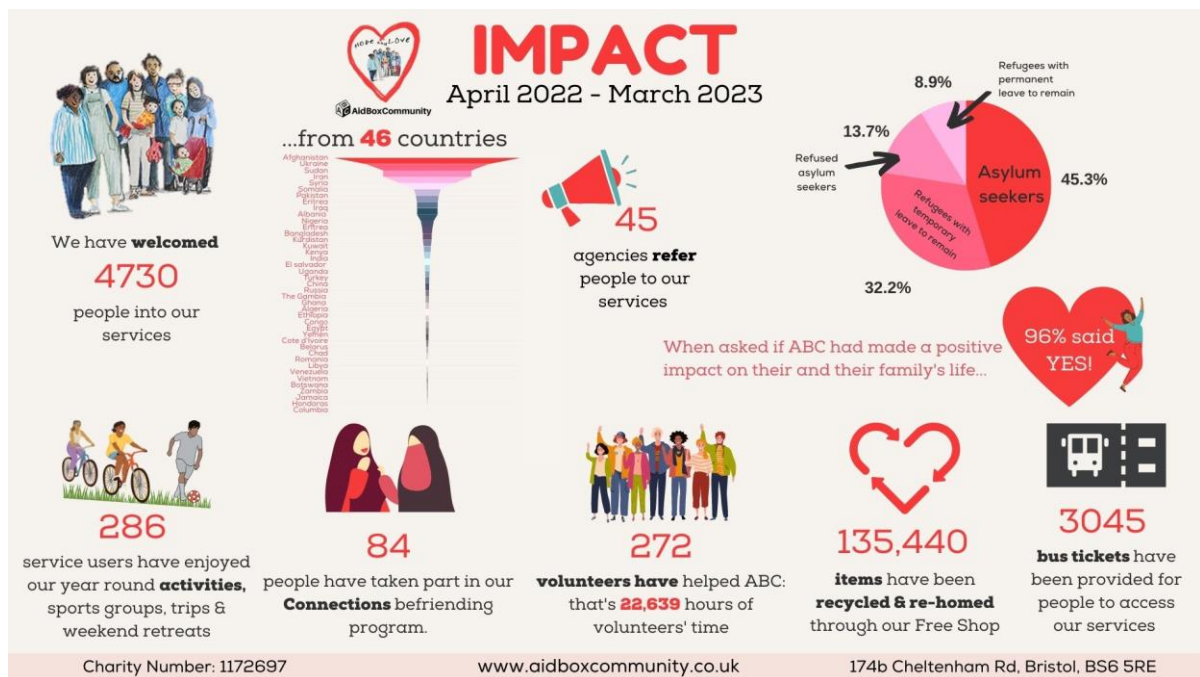
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Christadelphian Samaritan Fund	£500.00
Wessex Water Foundation (Quartet)	£3,000.00
Red Cross via Quartet	£10,000.00
Smith Family - fundraiser salary	£15,000.00
Glastonbury Stewarding	£7,600.00
Unrestricted Income	
The Ashenden Trust	£1,000.00
The Hilden Charitable Trust	£5,000.00
Forrester Family Trust	£40,000.00
AB Charitable Trust	£22,000.00
Nisbet Trust	£16,500.00

Financial Review

Our bank balance on the 31st of March 2023 was £330,172 representing a £93,149 increase over the previous end of year's balance, following a highly successful year of fundraising and increased activity. The end of year balance included £72,000 held as reserves (see update below), and £20,763 represented restricted funds carried forward to 2023-24. Expenditure came in within 2 % of budget but despite this we still increased our impact massively on last year.



Reserves

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Aid Box Community has a reserves policy which governs this important element of charity governance and sound financial discipline. The policy is reviewed each year by Trustees.

Following a major financial review by the Treasurer and Finance team at the end of 2021-22 the detailed costs and liabilities associated with a potential closure were carefully evaluated. As a result, the reserves were raised to £72,000. With a planned move to new larger premises in 2023/4 we will be increasing the reserves to £96,000 to cover the predicted increase in rent and bills together with payroll, redundancy, all suppliers, and taxes due, should we be faced with closure. This will ensure the least possible negative impact for our service users, staff, suppliers and stakeholders. The exercise will be repeated each year as per the Reserves Policy as an integral part of the annual budget setting process and any adjustments to the level of reserves held will be approved by trustees as necessary.

Note on Carry Forward

It should be noted that the figure in our reserves policy is considered our minimum reserve level. If our cash in the bank at any time dips below this level, then trustees will need to consider whether to take action to reduce expenditure to ensure the ongoing viability of the charity. Trustees consider it prudent to end the year with available funds considerably over the reserve level, but we recognise that the closing figure of £330,000 is high for a charity of ABC's size.

As outlined above, our fundraising performance this year was exceptional. We expected to raise £260,000 but actually raised £360,000. This was partly due to a number of grants received from local authorities to support asylum seekers placed in hotels that were not anticipated. Our expenditure budgeting however was very accurate, spending being within 2% of the agreed budget. If our income budget had not been exceeded to such an extent, we would have reduced our carry forward by £60,000 between April 2022 and April 2023.

In the coming year trustees anticipate seeing the carry-forward stabilise as we plan to increase income slightly but increase expenditure significantly to match expected demand. This is in part necessitated by a need to find new larger premises and the fact that rental prices in Bristol have risen sharply. Given the significant additional liabilities we will be taking on over a three to five year lease, we plan to keep our carry forward around the £300,000 mark in April 2024 whilst we continue to grow our income streams in a solid and sustainable manner. As we move into 2025 and 2026, we plan to see our carry forward reduce further but will seek to ensure it does not dip too close to our minimum reserve level as this is calculated each year.

Funds received as agent or funds held as Custodian Trustee

There are no assets, classes of assets or categories of assets held on behalf of other entities.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT


YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Independent Examiners


The Trustees confirm that to the best of their knowledge there is no information relevant to the independent examination of which the Examiners are unaware. The Trustees also confirm that they have taken all necessary steps to ensure that they themselves are aware of relevant examination information and that this information has been communicated to the Examiners.

Joanne Trowbridge of Bristol Community Accountants CIC was appointed as the Charity's Independent Examiner during the year. Joanne Trowbridge is a member of the Association of Accounting Technicians.

The report was approved by the Trustees on 30th October 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

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Richard Annandale - Chair

DocuSigned by:

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Naresh Rao – Trustee, Treasurer

AID BOX COMMUNITY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 14-22.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

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

Independent Examiner's statement

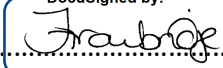
Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Association of Accounting Technicians, which is one of the listed bodies.

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:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Joanne Trowbridge MAAT

DocuSigned by:

C2F8368E1B574EA...
1/11/2023

Date

Bristol Community Accountants CIC
The Park
Daventry Road, Bristol BS4 1DQ

AID BOX COMMUNITY**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Including Income and Expenditure Account)****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	Note	£	£	£	£
Incoming and Endowments from:					
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>					
Donations and legacies	3	267,625	120,458	388,083	331,140
Investments	4	-	-	-	4
Total		<u>267,625</u>	<u>120,458</u>	<u>388,083</u>	<u>331,144</u>
Expenditure On:					
Raising funds	6	10,328	21,579	31,907	13,321
Charitable activities	7	161,738	100,874	262,612	194,464
Other	8	856	-	856	767
Total		<u>172,922</u>	<u>122,453</u>	<u>295,375</u>	<u>208,552</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		94,703	(1,995)	92,708	122,592
Net income/(expenditure) before other gains and losses		<u>94,703</u>	<u>(1,995)</u>	<u>92,708</u>	<u>122,592</u>
Net movement in funds		94,703	(1,995)	92,708	122,592
Total funds brought forward		223,834	22,758	246,592	124,000
Total Funds Carried Forward	16	<u>318,537</u>	<u>20,763</u>	<u>339,300</u>	<u>246,592</u>

All of the activities of the charity are classed as continuing

The notes on pages 16 to 22 form part of these financial statements

As required by paragraph 4.67 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the Balance Sheet.

AID BOX COMMUNITY**BALANCE SHEET****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets			
Debtors	14	26,656	20,687
Cash at bank and in hand		330,172	237,023
<i>Total current assets</i>		<u>356,828</u>	<u>257,710</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	(17,528)	(11,118)
<i>Net current assets or liabilities</i>		<u>339,300</u>	<u>246,592</u>
Total net assets or liabilities		<u><u>339,300</u></u>	<u><u>246,592</u></u>
The Funds of the Charity			
Restricted funds	17	20,763	22,758
Unrestricted funds		318,537	223,834
		<u>339,300</u>	<u>246,592</u>

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on 30th October 2023 and are signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

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 Richard Annandale - Chair

The notes on pages 16 to 22 form part of these financial statements

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Basis of Preparation

- a) These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP(FRS 102)) and with the Charities Act 2011.

- b) Change in basis of preparation

The charity trustees have chosen to prepare the financial statements on the accruals basis. The trustees feel this results in the accounts providing more appropriate and relevant information about the financial performance of the charity. The prior year figures were prepared on a cash basis and have therefore been restated for comparison reason.

- c) The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.
d) The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

2 Accounting Policies

- a) Income from donations is included in income when these are receivable, except as follows:

- i) When donors specify that donations given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods.
ii) When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred until the pre-condition have been met.

- b) Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Expenditure includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

- c) Most expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities, and has been included in those cost categories. Support cost have been allocated 100% towards the charitable activities of the charity.

- d) Rentals applicable to operating lease agreements where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

- e) Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

- f) Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

- g) Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset. Depreciation is not charged in the year of purchase:
Motor Vehicles - 25% reducing balance

- h) The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

- i) The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. Pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the charitable company during the year.

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023****Income and Endowments From:**

3 Donations and Legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
General Donations	123,748	181	123,929	121,945
Grants	84,500	105,277	189,777	131,790
Grants - Martin Smith Foundation	-	15,000	15,000	27,000
Fundraising Events	37,127	-	37,127	33,564
Crowdfunder	7,100	-	7,100	-
Gift Aid	13,209	-	13,209	12,158
Miscellaneous Income	1,941	-	1,941	3,206
CJRS Grant	-	-	-	1,477
	<u>267,625</u>	<u>120,458</u>	<u>388,083</u>	<u>331,140</u>

<i>Donations and legacies - prior year</i>	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Total Funds</i>
	<i>Funds</i>	<i>Funds</i>	<i>2022</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
<i>General Donations</i>	<i>118,490</i>	<i>3,455</i>	<i>121,945</i>
<i>Grants</i>	<i>68,500</i>	<i>63,290</i>	<i>131,790</i>
<i>Grants - Martin Smith Foundation</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>27,000</i>	<i>27,000</i>
<i>Fundraising Income</i>	<i>33,564</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>33,564</i>
<i>Gift Aid</i>	<i>12,158</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>12,158</i>
<i>Miscellaneous Income</i>	<i>3,206</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3,206</i>
<i>CJRS Grant</i>	<i>1,477</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1,477</i>
	<u><i>237,395</i></u>	<u><i>93,745</i></u>	<u><i>331,140</i></u>

4 Investments	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest receivable	-	-	-	4
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4</u>

Investments prior year - all unrestricted

5 Government Grants

The charity receives government grants, defined as funding from Bristol City Council to fund charitable activities. The total value of such grants in the period ending 31 March 2023 was £82,687 (2022: £47,877). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants in the year ended 31 March 2023.

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023****Expenditure on:**

6 Raising Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising staff costs	8,266	13,714	21,980	3,717
Freelance costs	-	3,994	3,994	6,918
Fundraising costs	2,062	3,871	5,933	2,686
	<u>10,328</u>	<u>21,579</u>	<u>31,907</u>	<u>13,321</u>

Raising Funds prior year

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2022
	£	£	£
Fundraising staff costs	-	3,717	3,717
Freelance costs	1,954	4,964	6,918
Fundraising costs	2,686	-	2,686
	<u>4,640</u>	<u>8,681</u>	<u>13,321</u>

7 Charitable Activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	108,017	34,505	142,522	91,822
Freelance costs	4,284	-	4,284	27,243
Travel	(333)	17,085	16,752	6,841
Training and supervision	2,039	60	2,099	3,124
Rent, rates and utilities	5,223	1,283	6,506	22,352
Refugee, Volunteer and Hub Expenses	10,993	43,760	54,753	20,370
Internet, phone and IT	3,071	2,219	5,290	3,692
Insurance	473	-	473	894
Stationery and Printing	894	124	1,018	572
Repairs and Equipment	6,464	267	6,731	367
Marketing and Subscriptions	245	1,535	1,780	313
Professional Fees	272	-	272	1,153
Bookkeeping and Payroll	16,848	-	16,848	10,070
Bank Charges	2,810	36	2,846	2,286
Vehicle costs	-	-	-	300
Miscellaneous	403	-	403	358
Recruitment costs	35	-	35	1,458
Disposal of fixed asset	-	-	-	1,249
	<u>161,738</u>	<u>100,874</u>	<u>262,612</u>	<u>194,464</u>

Charitable Activities -prior year

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2022
	£	£	£
Staff costs	59,805	32,017	91,822
Freelance costs	22,643	4,600	27,243
Travel	803	6,038	6,841
Training and supervision	2,202	922	3,124

cont'

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023****Charitable Activities - prior year cont'**

<i>Rent, rates and utilities</i>	8,121	14,231	22,352
<i>Refugee, Volunteer and Hub Expenses</i>	4,662	15,708	20,370
<i>Internet, phone and IT</i>	3,452	240	3,692
<i>Insurance</i>	894	-	894
<i>Stationery and Printing</i>	572	-	572
<i>Repairs and Equipment</i>	367	-	367
<i>Marketing and Subscriptions</i>	313	-	313
<i>Professional Fees</i>	1,153	-	1,153
<i>Bookkeeping and Payroll</i>	10,070	-	10,070
<i>Bank Charges</i>	2,286	-	2,286
<i>Vehicle costs</i>	300	-	300
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	358	-	358
<i>Recruitment costs</i>	1,458	-	1,458
<i>Disposal of fixed asset</i>	1,249	-	1,249
	<u>120,708</u>	<u>73,756</u>	<u>194,464</u>

8 Other	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Independent Examination and accounts preparation fee	856	-	856	767
	<u>856</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>856</u>	<u>767</u>

Other prior year - all unrestricted

9 Net incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Independent Examiner's fee	562	499
	<u>562</u>	<u>499</u>

10 Staff Costs and numbers

The aggregate payroll costs were:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	155,185	86,880
Social Security Costs	6,342	3,142
Pension Costs	2,975	1,800
	<u>164,502</u>	<u>91,822</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 (2022: £Nil)

The average monthly head count was 9 staff (2022: 4)

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the board of trustees & two directors. The total employee benefits of 2023:2 (2022:2) key management personnel, during the year, total £63,079 (2022: £51,507).

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023****11 Related Party Transactions**

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2022: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2022: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2022: £nil).

Aid Box Trading Ltd (Company number 12319337) is the wholly owned subsidiary of Aid Box Community. During the year Aid Box Trading Ltd gifted profits from their trading activities to Aid Box Community of £30,000 (2022: £34,310).

During the year, Aid Box Community made loans to Aid Box Trading Ltd totalling (2022: £12,000). As at 31 March 2023 Aid Box Trading Ltd owed Aid Box Community £2,371 (2022: £2,000).

Peter Kent is a trustee of Aid Box Community and was appointed as a director of Aid Box Trading Ltd on 30 August 2022.

Other than disclosed above, there were no other related party transactions during the year.

12 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

13 The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at year end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on assets of the CIO.

14 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade Debtors	17,367	19,287
Other debtors	2,398	1,400
Pre payments	6,891	-
	<u>26,656</u>	<u>20,687</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	14,488	5,323
Social Security and Taxes	2,184	5,028
Accruals and deferred Income	856	767
	<u>17,528</u>	<u>11,118</u>

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023****16 Analysis of Charitable Funds**

	01-Apr 2022	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	At 31-Mar 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	223,834	267,625	(172,922)	-	318,537
Total unrestricted funds	<u>223,834</u>	<u>267,625</u>	<u>(172,922)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>318,537</u>
Restricted funds					
Martin Smith Foundation - Fundraiser	6,421	15,000	(21,421)	-	-
Quartet Community Foundation	1,535	-	(1,535)	-	-
Wessex Water	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Activities Project	14,802	-	(14,802)	-	-
Bristol City Council	-	74,701	(59,787)	-	14,914
Borderlands (Southwest) Limited	-	8,167	(6,029)	-	2,138
Red Cross	-	10,000	(6,289)	-	3,711
General Donations	-	2,090	(2,090)	-	-
Swan Mountain Womens Group	-	4,500	(4,500)	-	-
29th May 1961 Charitable Foundation	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Total restricted funds	<u>22,758</u>	<u>120,458</u>	<u>(122,453)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,763</u>
Total funds	<u>246,592</u>	<u>388,083</u>	<u>(295,375)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>339,300</u>

Purpose of restricted funds

Martin Smith Foundation	Fundraiser salary
Quartet Community Foundation	Salary costs and film production
Wessex Water - Hub project	Hub Project
Activities Project	NHS Bristol £19,000 - ABC services Jan 2022 - Jan 2023 - host weekly men sport group Mar 22 onwards, befriending group
Bristol City Council	Co-ordination and delivery of donations for Afghan refugees, response to Ukraine war and provision of ABC services to arrivals at New Hotel
Borderlands (Southwest) Limited	To provide essential living items to the residents of the Filton Hotel
Red Cross - Ukraine Support Fund Programme	Hub Project costs
General donations	Open Minds Active, Glastonbury Stewards and Christadelphian Charitable Foundation
Swan Mountain WG	Womens Group
29th May 1961 Charitable Foundation	Hub project costs

AID BOX COMMUNITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Cash at Bank and in Hand	323,312	-	6,860	330,172
Other Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)	(4,775)	-	13,903	9,128
Total	318,537	-	20,763	339,300
<i>Analysis of net assets - prior year</i>				
	<i>General Fund £</i>	<i>Designated Funds £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds £</i>	<i>Total £</i>
Cash at Bank and in Hand	234,952	-	2,071	237,023
Other Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)	(11,118)	-	20,687	9,569
<i>Total</i>	<i>223,834</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>22,758</i>	<i>246,592</i>

18 Analysis of prior year funds, as required by paragraph 4.2. of the SORP

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2022 £
Income and Endowments From:			
Donations and legacies	237,395	93,745	331,140
Investments	4	-	4
Total	237,399	93,745	331,144
Expenditure On:			
Raising funds	4,640	8,681	13,321
Charitable activities	120,708	73,756	194,464
Other	767	-	767
Total	126,115	82,437	208,552
Net income/(expenditure)	111,284	11,308	122,592
Transfers between funds	(594)	594	-
Net movement in funds	110,690	11,902	122,592
Total funds brought forward	113,144	10,856	124,000
Total Funds Carried Forward	223,834	22,758	246,592

AID BOX COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1172697

Accounts



AID BOX COMMUNITY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Charity Number 1172697

AID BOX COMMUNITY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	9
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AID BOX COMMUNITY**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY AND ITS ADVISORS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Charity Name Aid Box Community

Charity Number 1172697

Registered office and operational address 174b Cheltenham Road, Bristol, BS6 5RE

Trustees **Our Current Trustees are:**

Richard Annandale	Chair	01.02.22
	Trustee	22.10.20
Peter Kent	Trustee	13.10.18
Gillian Nineham	Trustee	13.10.18
Irene Zikusoka	Trustee	22.10.20
Naresh Rao	Treasurer	28.01.21
Clare McKeown	Trustee	16.06.22
Jonathan Elphinstone	Trustee	14.07.22

Others who acted as Trustees during the period of this report:

Sarah Rice	Chair (resigned)	31.01.22
	Trustee (resigned)	18.02.22
Karen Hillier	Trustee (resigned)	11.05.21
Holly Solo-Hawthorn	Trustee (resigned)	15.10.21

Key Personnel Imogen McIntosh Director and Founder

Bankers Lloyds Bank
317 Gloucester Rd
Horfield
Bristol
BS7 8PG

Independent Examiner Joanne Trowbridge MAAT
Bristol Community Accountants CIC The Park,
Daventry Road, Bristol BS4 1DQ

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Aid Box Community

The Trustees present the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) as amended by Update Bulletin 2 published in October 2018, effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019.

Legal Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed according to the rules of its CIO Foundation Constitution, registered on 24 April 2017, as amended on 30 May 2018, as further amended on 20 July 2018.

Organisational structure and wider networks

The Charity Trustees manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO.

Aid Box Community is made up of the following team members:

- Trustee Board (Voluntary)
- Service User Advisory Group (Voluntary)
- 140 Volunteers (Voluntary)
- Hub Manager (24hrs/week)
- Hub Assistant (25hrs/week)
- Bookkeeper (16hrs/week Freelance)
- Grants Fundraiser (15hrs/week Freelance)
- Comms. and Local Fundraiser (24hrs/week)
- Volunteer Coordinator & Connections Manager (24hrs/week)
- Activity Groups Coordinator (20hrs/week)
- Founder/Director (30hrs/week)

Aid Box Community is an active member of the BRASP (Bristol Refugee and Asylum Seeker Partnership) Steering Group which was formed in 2020 to enable 16 organisations in Bristol which support Refugees and Asylum Seekers in some capacity to work together.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Aid Box Community works very closely with other key Refugee support services in Bristol, including:

- British Red Cross
- Bristol Refugee Rights
- Borderlands
- Unseen
- The Haven (NHS)
- Refugee Women of Bristol
- Bridges for Community
- Bristol Hospitality Network
- Bristol City Council

Aid Box Community is proud to be an integral part of Bristol's active humanitarian community working alongside many community-led groups.

Refugees and Asylum Seekers are referred to Aid Box Community by more than 45 organisations.

Trustee selection methods

Trustees are appointed by the existing trustees normally after open advertisement and interview.

Induction and training of trustees

This is undertaken by a combination of practical sessions and provision of key governance information.

The Trustee Induction Pack includes the following exclusively for Trustees:

- The current version of the Constitution
- The CIO's latest Trustees' Annual Report and Statement of Accounts
- Code of Conduct Policy
- Conflicts of Interest Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Disclosure Check Policy
- Staff handbook
- Finance handbook

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

In addition, Trustees have this year approved the following organisational policies:

- Lone Working Policy
- Safeguarding Adults Policy
- Safeguarding Children Policy
- Remuneration Policy
- Finance Manual and Staff Manuals (two substantial suites of policies)

The purposes of the Charity as set out in its governing document

The relief of poverty and financial hardship of Refugees and Asylum Seekers in the United Kingdom for the public benefit by providing free and essential living items. Promoting the integration of Refugees and Asylum Seekers through the signposting of partner services for practical help in housing, legal advice and medical support.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in compliance with this guidance

- Free Shop and Welcome Hub
- Activities groups, trips and retreats
- Connections Befriending service – 3 – 4 connections programmes/year
- Welfare – signposting, 1-1 support
- Crisis Fund – practical or financial support with crisis

Summary of the main achievements of the Charity during the year

The entire year presented extremely difficult challenges to all our services resulting from the Covid pandemic. These challenges were exacerbated by the support required by the many refugees arriving in Bristol from Afghanistan.

However, due to sheer determination, hard work and huge support from the public and our community, the Aid Box Community team adapted to the ever-changing environment and demands. The team, with vital support from our volunteers, has continued to provide exceptional services that are having an enormous impact on the lives of many displaced people in Bristol including 190 people from Afghanistan and a further 250 people who are in temporary hotel accommodation across Bristol.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Despite being forced to close our doors to the public due to Covid restrictions, we ensured continued access to basic essential items from our Free Shop by creating a Click and Delivery Service. Our Women's Group continued to run via Zoom, and we also connected people through our Connections programme online, thus helping those alone and isolated to stay in touch and feel supported.

The support from the public, donors and volunteers has been astounding as always and we are ending the year in a strong position financially, with a very solid team, a flourishing community, and extremely positive feedback from our users about the impact our services are having on their lives.

1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022

- We welcomed 1682 adults and 503 children to Aid Box Community and provided them with clothes and other basic living essentials.
- Our Click and Delivery Service and Free Shop were accessed 1400 times.
- We made 850 deliveries to people's homes or hotels.
- 200 people benefited from our groups, trips and retreats.
- 79 people were connected for friendship through our Connections programme.
- We provided 1188 bus passes for people to access our services, legal and other important appointments.
- In a survey of our service users, 95% said that ABC has had a positive impact on their life, with improvements in mental ill-health, increased feelings of inclusion and confidence in speaking English and making friends.

Achievements against objectives set

At the start of the year, our assumptions around total numbers of refugees and asylum seekers that we would help was 1,704 but this included children. We can see from the figures above that we far exceeded this having almost met this target by supporting 1682 adults alone, with an additional 503 children supported. This was a result of our additional efforts to meet the needs of the increased number of refugees arriving as we have already explained. Fortunately given our tremendous fundraising success we were able to increase our staff capacity to deliver this need.

Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set

Our initial income projections when the budget was approved for 21/22 was £233,424. In fact, we raised £331,144 which we are immensely proud of especially given the difficulties in recruiting a Professional Fundraiser. Some details are outlined below:

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Fundraising events and campaigns:

In response to the Afghan crisis, we launched a Crowdfunder to help us expand our services to support the 190 people dispersed to Bristol hotels, and raised £25,000 including £10,000 from a private funder.

As we emerged from lockdown, we quickly organised the following events:

- 8 runners raised £7,000 taking part in the Bristol 10K
- Muddy Madness raised £7,800
- Our annual Refutrees Christmas trees fundraiser raised £30,000

Contribution of volunteers

Volunteers are key to our existence as a charity. Without their considerable contribution we would be unable to operate.

- 31 volunteers work weekly
- 15 driver volunteers operated our Click and Delivery service and work on an ad hoc basis
- 15 volunteers are also service users
- 140 events volunteers run Refutrees, Muddy Madness and other smaller events
- 65 Connections volunteers

Financial Review

Our bank balance on 31 March 2022 was £236,164, representing a £100,000 increase over the previous end of year's balance following a highly successful year of fundraising and increased activity. The end of year balance included £48,000 held as reserves (see update below), and £22,758 represented restricted funds carried forward to 2022-23.

Trustees are mindful that £236,164 is a significant amount to carry forward for an organisation with operating costs of around £300,000 per year. Given the success of our fundraising efforts this year we have been able to increase the scope of our work so the overall expenditure budget for 22/23 is £336,000, even though we project our income to be £278,000. If realised this should reduce our carry forward considerably by the end of 22/23 to approximately £178,000. This is still considerably higher than our target reserve but we consider this prudent given the economic uncertainty we are facing and the long term sustainability of the organisation.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Reserves

Aid Box Community has a new Reserves Policy which governs this important element of corporate governance and financial discipline. The policy is reviewed annually by Trustees.

At the end of 2021.22, Aid Box Community held cash reserves of £48,000. We planned to increase the reserves at our March 2022 meeting, with the precise sum determined pending an in-depth review. This reserve fund is held in a separate account from the Charity's main bank account which is used for working capital.

Following a major financial review by the Treasurer and Finance team, the detailed costs and liabilities associated with a potential closure were carefully evaluated. As a result, the reserves held have been raised to £72,000 which the review found is sufficient to cover all our commitments for payroll, redundancy, suppliers and taxes due should we be faced with closure. This will ensure the least impact possible for our service users, staff, suppliers and stakeholders. The exercise will be repeated each year as per the Reserves Policy as an integral part of the annual budget setting process and any adjustments to the level of reserves held will be made as necessary.

Funds received as agent or funds held as Custodian Trustee

There are no assets, classes of assets or categories of assets held on behalf of other entities.


Independent Examiners

The Trustees confirm that to the best of their knowledge there is no information relevant to the independent examination of which the Examiners are unaware. The Trustees also confirm that they have taken all necessary steps to ensure that they themselves are aware of relevant examination information and that this information has been communicated to the Examiners.


Joanne Trowbridge of Bristol Community Accountants CIC was appointed as the Charity's Independent Examiner during the year. Joanne Trowbridge is a member of the Association of Accounting Technicians.

9/1/2023

The report was approved by the Trustees on and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

.....EC0CFD8D7282405.....

Richard Annandale - Chair

DocuSigned by:

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Naresh Rao – Treasurer

AID BOX COMMUNITY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2022 which are set out on pages 9-17.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

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

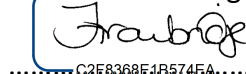
Independent Examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Joanne Trowbridge MAAT



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10/1/2023

Date

Bristol Community Accountants CIC
The Park
Daventry Road, Bristol BS4 1DQ

AID BOX COMMUNITY**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Including Income and Expenditure Account)****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	Note	£	£	£	£
Incoming and Endowments from:					
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>					
Donations and legacies	3	237,395	93,745	331,140	237,822
Investments	4	4	-	4	-
Total		<u>237,399</u>	<u>93,745</u>	<u>331,144</u>	<u>237,822</u>
Expenditure On:					
Raising funds	6	4,640	8,681	13,321	3,339
Charitable activities	7	120,708	73,756	194,464	193,522
Other	8	767	-	767	707
Total		<u>126,115</u>	<u>82,437</u>	<u>208,552</u>	<u>197,568</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		111,284	11,308	122,592	40,254
Transfers between funds	17	(594)	594	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) before other gains and losses		<u>110,690</u>	<u>11,902</u>	<u>122,592</u>	<u>40,254</u>
Net movement in funds		<u>110,690</u>	<u>11,902</u>	<u>122,592</u>	<u>40,254</u>
Total funds brought forward		113,144	10,856	124,000	83,746
Total Funds Carried Forward	17	<u>223,834</u>	<u>22,758</u>	<u>246,592</u>	<u>124,000</u>

All of the activities of the charity are classed as continuing

The notes on pages 11 to 17 form part of these financial statements

As required by paragraph 4.67 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the Balance Sheet.

See note 18 for full comparative for 2021

AID BOX COMMUNITY**BALANCE SHEET****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	16	-	1,250
Current assets			
Debtors	14	20,687	675
Cash at bank and in hand		237,023	129,501
<i>Total current assets</i>		<u>257,710</u>	<u>130,176</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	(11,118)	(7,426)
<i>Net current assets or liabilities</i>		<u>246,592</u>	<u>122,750</u>
Total net assets or liabilities		<u><u>246,592</u></u>	<u><u>124,000</u></u>
The Funds of the Charity			
Restricted funds	18	22,758	10,856
Unrestricted funds		223,834	113,144
		<u>246,592</u>	<u>124,000</u>

9/1/2023

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on and are signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

Richard Annandale

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Richard Annandale - Chair

The notes on pages 11 to 17 form part of these financial statements

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Basis of Preparation

- a) These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP(FRS 102)) and with the Charities Act 2011.

- b) Change in basis of preparation

The charity trustees have chosen to prepare the financial statements on the accruals basis. The trustees feel this results in the accounts providing more appropriate and relevant information about the financial performance of the charity. The prior year figures were prepared on a cash basis and have therefore been restated for comparison reason.

- c) The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.
d) The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

2 Accounting Policies

- a) Income from donations is included in income when these are receivable, except as follows:

i) When donors specify that donations given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods.

ii) When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred until the pre-condition have been met.

- b) Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Expenditure includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

- c) Most expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities, and has been included in those cost categories. Support cost have been allocated 100% towards the charitable activities of the charity.

- d) Rentals applicable to operating lease agreements where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

- e) Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

- f) Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

- g) Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset. Depreciation is not charged in the year of purchase:

Motor Vehicles - 25% reducing balance

- h) The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

- i) The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. Pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the charitable company during the year.

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022****Income and Endowments From:**

3 Donations and Legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
General Donations	118,490	3,455	121,945	96,647
Grants	68,500	63,290	131,790	125,208
Grants - Martin Smith Foundation	-	27,000	27,000	8,000
Fundraising Income	33,564	-	33,564	305
Gift Aid	12,158	-	12,158	4,652
Miscellaneous Income	3,206	-	3,206	-
CJRS Grant	1,477	-	1,477	3,010
	<u>237,395</u>	<u>93,745</u>	<u>331,140</u>	<u>237,822</u>

<i>Donations and legacies - prior year</i>	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Total Funds</i>
	<i>Funds</i>	<i>Funds</i>	<i>2021</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
<i>General Donations</i>	<i>96,647</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>96,647</i>
<i>Grants</i>	<i>34,000</i>	<i>91,208</i>	<i>125,208</i>
<i>Grants - Martin Smith Foundation</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>8,000</i>	<i>8,000</i>
<i>Fundraising Income</i>	<i>305</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>305</i>
<i>Gift Aid</i>	<i>4,652</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>4,652</i>
<i>CJRS Grant</i>	<i>3,010</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3,010</i>
	<u><i>138,614</i></u>	<u><i>99,208</i></u>	<u><i>237,822</i></u>

4 Investments	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest receivable	4	-	4	-
	<u>4</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>-</u>

Investments prior year - all unrestricted

5 Government Grants

The charity receives government grants, defined as funding from HMRC, Bristol City Council and NHS Bristol and South Gloucestershire to fund charitable activities. The total value of such grants in the period ending 31 March 2022 was £47,877 (2021: £33,010). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants in the year ended 31 March 2022.

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022****Expenditure on:**

6 Raising Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising staff costs	-	3,717	3,717	3,339
Freelance costs	1,954	4,964	6,918	-
Fundraising costs	2,686	-	2,686	-
	<u>4,640</u>	<u>8,681</u>	<u>13,321</u>	<u>3,339</u>

Raising funds prior year - all restricted

7 Charitable Activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	59,805	32,017	91,822	79,467
Freelance costs	22,643	4,600	27,243	22,657
Travel	803	6,038	6,841	5,761
Training and supervision	2,202	922	3,124	4,294
Rent, rates and utilities	8,121	14,231	22,352	18,395
Refugee, Volunteer and Hub Expenses	4,662	15,708	20,370	36,989
Internet, phone and IT	3,452	240	3,692	4,460
Insurance	894	-	894	1,184
Stationery and Printing	572	-	572	275
Repairs and Equipment	367	-	367	1,401
Marketing and Subscriptions	313	-	313	2,016
Professional Fees	1,153	-	1,153	-
Bookkeeping and Payroll	10,070	-	10,070	14,602
Bank Charges	2,286	-	2,286	-
Vehicle costs	300	-	300	1,047
Miscellaneous	358	-	358	349
Recruitment costs	1,458	-	1,458	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	625
Disposal of fixed asset	1,249	-	1,249	-
	<u>120,708</u>	<u>73,756</u>	<u>194,464</u>	<u>193,522</u>

Charitable Activities -prior year

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2021
	£	£	£
<i>Staff Costs</i>	<i>39,640</i>	<i>39,827</i>	<i>79,467</i>
<i>Freelance</i>	<i>12,493</i>	<i>10,164</i>	<i>22,657</i>
<i>Travel and Training</i>	<i>5,174</i>	<i>4,881</i>	<i>10,055</i>
<i>Rent, Rates and Utilities</i>	<i>8,395</i>	<i>10,000</i>	<i>18,395</i>
<i>Refugee, Volunteer and Hub Expenses</i>	<i>3,454</i>	<i>33,535</i>	<i>36,989</i>
<i>Internet, Phone and IT</i>	<i>3,837</i>	<i>623</i>	<i>4,460</i>
<i>Insurance</i>	<i>1,184</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1,184</i>
<i>Stationery and Printing</i>	<i>275</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>275</i>
<i>Repairs and Equipment</i>	<i>802</i>	<i>599</i>	<i>1,401</i>
<i>Marketing and Subscriptions</i>	<i>1,531</i>	<i>485</i>	<i>2,016</i>
<i>Bookkeeping and Payroll</i>	<i>11,482</i>	<i>3,120</i>	<i>14,602</i>

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022****Charitable Activities -prior year cont¹**

Vehicle costs	1,047	-	1,047
Miscellaneous	254	95	349
Depreciation	625	-	625
	<u>90,193</u>	<u>103,329</u>	<u>193,522</u>

8 Other

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Independent Examination and accounts preparation fee	767	-	767	707
	<u>767</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>767</u>	<u>707</u>

Other prior year - all unrestricted

9 Net incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation	-	625
Independent Examiner's fee	499	479
	<u>499</u>	<u>479</u>

10 Staff Costs and numbers

The aggregate payroll costs were:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	90,597	74,508
Social Security Costs	3,142	3,158
Pension Costs	1,800	1,801
	<u>95,539</u>	<u>79,467</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 (2021: £Nil)

The average monthly head count was 4 staff (2021: 4)

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the board of trustees & the Chief Executive Officer, and the director, Founder. The total employee benefits of 2 (2021: 1) key management personnel, during the year, total £47,060 (2021: £39,415). During the year the charity agreed a termination package with one of its employees. On termination of the employment, statutory redundancy of £1,632 was paid as part of the agreed termination terms.

11 Related Party Transactions

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2021: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2021: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2021: £nil).

Sarah Rice was a trustee of Aid Box Community until resigning in February 2022 and was also a director of Aid Box Trading Ltd.

Robin Adlem was a director of Aid Box Trading Ltd until resigning in July 2021 and was an employee of Aid Box Community until September 2021.

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022****Related Party Transactions cont'**

Aid Box Trading Ltd (Company number 12319337) is the wholly owned subsidiary of Aid Box Community. During the year Aid Box Trading Ltd gifted profits from their trading activities to Aid Box Community of £34,310 (2021: £30,000).

During the year, Aid Box Community made loans to Aid Box Trading Ltd totalling £12,000. As at 31 March 2022 Aid Box Trading Ltd owed Aid Box Community £975 (2021: £1,732).

Other than disclosed above, there were no other related party transactions during the year.

12 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

13 The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at year end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on assets of the CIO.

14 Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade Debtors	19,287	-
Other debtors	1,400	675
	<u>20,687</u>	<u>675</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	5,323	4,421
Social Security and Taxes	5,028	2,298
Accruals and deferred Income	767	707
	<u>11,118</u>	<u>7,426</u>

16 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Motor Vehicle	Total
	£	£
Cost		
At 1 April 2020	2,500	2,500
Disposal in year	(2,500)	(2,500)
At 31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2021	1,250	1,250
Disposal in year	(1,250)	(1,250)
At 31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,250</u>	<u>1,250</u>

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022****17 Analysis of Charitable Funds**

	01-Apr 2021	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	At 31-Mar 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	111,894	237,399	(125,803)	(594)	222,896
Designated funds					
Vehicle Depreciation	1,250	-	(312)	-	938
Total unrestricted funds	<u>113,144</u>	<u>237,399</u>	<u>(126,115)</u>	<u>(594)</u>	<u>223,834</u>
Restricted funds					
Martin Smith Foundation - Vol Coordinator	-	4,000	(4,000)	-	-
Martin Smith Foundation - Fundraiser	-	15,000	(8,579)	-	6,421
Martin Smith Foundation - Rent	4,000	8,000	(12,000)	-	-
Quartet Community Foundation	4,964	10,000	(13,429)	-	1,535
Activities Project	-	26,290	(11,794)	306	14,802
Bristol City Council	-	25,000	(25,106)	106	-
Prism the Gift - Choose Love	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
General Donations	-	3,455	(3,564)	109	-
Swan Mountain Womens Group	1,435	-	(1,495)	60	-
Charity Aid Foundation	457	-	(470)	13	-
Total restricted funds	<u>10,856</u>	<u>93,745</u>	<u>(82,437)</u>	<u>594</u>	<u>22,758</u>
Total funds	<u>124,000</u>	<u>331,144</u>	<u>(208,552)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>246,592</u>

Purpose of restricted funds

Martin Smith Foundation - Volunteer Coordinator and fundraiser positions and rent costs

Quartet Community Foundation - Salary costs and film production

Activities Project:

NHS Bristol £19,000 - ABC services Jan 2022 - Jan 2023 - host weekly men sport group Mar 22 onwards, befriending group

Bristol City Council £2,400 - Sewing club for Womens group

Westport £4,878 - support for groups

Bristol City Council - Running costs of hub and salaries for 6 months

Prism the Gift - Choose Love - Afghan Project - Hub manager salary and purchase of clothing and underwear.

General Donations - Essential aid for the shop

Swan Mountain WG - Womens Group

Charity Aid Foundation - Resilience Fund to continue your organisation's core work or Covid-19 emergency response activities

AID BOX COMMUNITY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022****18 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	General Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Tangible Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-
Cash at Bank and in Hand	234,952	-	2,071	237,023
Other Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)	(11,118)	-	20,687	9,569
Total	223,834	-	22,758	246,592

19 Analysis of prior year funds, as required by paragraph 4.2. of the SORP

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2021 £
Income and Endowments From:			
Donations and legacies	138,614	99,208	237,822
Investments	-	-	-
Total	138,614	99,208	237,822
Expenditure On:			
Raising funds	-	3,339	3,339
Charitable activities	90,193	103,329	193,522
Other	707	-	707
Total	90,900	106,668	197,568
Net income/(expenditure)	47,714	(7,460)	40,254
Transfers between funds	11,125	(11,125)	-
Net movement in funds	58,839	(18,585)	40,254
Total funds brought forward	54,305	29,441	83,746
Total Funds Carried Forward	113,144	10,856	124,000

AID BOX COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1172697

Accounts

**AID BOX COMMUNITY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Charity Number 1172697

AID BOX COMMUNITY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	9
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AID BOX COMMUNITY

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY AND ITS ADVISORS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Charity Name AID Box Community

Charity number 1172697

Registered office and operational address 174 Cheltenham Road, Bristol, BS6 5RE

Trustees Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Sarah Rice	Chair	05.07.17
Karen Hillier		13.18.18
Peter Kent		13.10.18
Gillian Nineham		13.10.18
Kevin Stone	Treasurer	17.01.19 – 05.06.20
Holly Solo-Hawthorn	Chair	17.07.19
	Secretary	01.07.20 onwards
Richard Annandale		28.01.21
Irene Elizabeth		22.10.20
Naresh Rao	Treasurer	28.01.21

Key Personnel Robin Adlem CEO
Imogen Macintosh Founder

Bankers Lloyds Bank
5-7 Waverley Place
Bristol
BS6 6ES

Independent Examiners Joanne Trowbridge MAAT
Bristol Community Accountants CIC
The Park, Daventry Road, Bristol, BS4 1DQ

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

AID Box Community

The Trustees present the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) as amended by Update Bulletin 2 published in October 2018, effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019.

Legal Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (the CIO) governed according to the rules of its CIO Foundation Constitution, registered on 24 April 2017 as amended on 30 May 2018 as amended on 20 July 2018.

Organisational structure and wider networks

The charity trustees manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO.

Aid Box Community is made up of the following team members:

- Trustee Board (Voluntary)
- Service User Advisory Group (Voluntary)
- Volunteers (Voluntary)
- Aid Coordinator (Freelance)
- Bookkeeper (Freelance)
- Grants Fundraiser (Freelance)
- Local Fundraiser (Part Time)
- Volunteer Coordinator (Part Time)
- Project coordinator (Freelance)
- Founder/Director of Operations
- CEO

We are an active member of the Bristol Refugee Forum and regular work alongside and collaborate with:

- British Red Cross
- Bristol Refugee Rights
- Borderlands
- Unseen
- The Haven (NHS)
- Refugee Women of Bristol
- Bridges for Community
- Bristol Hospitality Network
- Bristol City Council

We are proud to be an integral part of Bristol's active humanitarian community and also work alongside many community led groups.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

Trustee Induction Pack, containing copies of the following policies exclusively for Trustees:

- A copy of the current version of this Constitution; and
- A copy of the CIO's latest trustees Annual Report and statement of accounts
- Code of Conduct
- Conflicts of Interest
- Data Protection
- Disclosure Check policy

In addition, Trustees have approved the following organisational policies:

- Policy 1: Code of Conduct
- Policy 2: Aid Distribution and Fair Usage
- Policy 3: Confidentiality
- Policy 4: Lone Working Policy
- Policy 5: Approach to Hate Crime & Safeguarding
- Policy 7: Child Protection Policy
- Policy 8: Manual Handling Policy
- Policy 9: Health and Safety Policy
- Policy 10: Bullying and Harassment
- Policy 11: Equal Opportunity
- Policy 12: Insurance Policy
- Policy 13 Privacy Policy
- Policy 14: Expenses Policy
- Policy 15: Volunteering and cultural diversity
- Policy 16: Volunteering and Disability
- Policy 17: Complaints Policy
- Policy 18: Donations Policy

The purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document

The relief of Poverty and financial hardship of Refugees and Asylum Seekers in the United Kingdom for the public benefit by providing free and essential Living Items. Promoting the integration of Refugees and Asylum Seekers through the signposting of partner services for practical help in Housing, Legal Advice and Medical Help.

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regards to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects

Aid Box Community remains at the forefront of a practical response to the needs of asylum seekers and refugees who are living in Bristol.

We continue to accept donations of aid from the general public which is sorted and distributed to service users via our free shop.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

We have distributed thousands of essential items: toiletries, cleaning products, basic food staples, clothes and footwear, bedding, kitchenware, other household items and small items of furniture to vulnerable and in need refugees and asylum seekers.

We purchase some essential living items for service users if they are unavailable from our free shop. We have qualified PAT Testers within the charity and thus are able to check and pass on donated household electrical goods such as kettles, irons, hairdryers, lamps, and microwaves to our service users. Small electrical items are purchased for service users occasionally when necessary e.g. vacuum cleaners.

The Free shop has space for friends to meet, have a coffee, and relax whilst their children play. Our welcome hub is a safe space where volunteers and service users spend time with each other, socialising as a group of friends would. It enables our service users and volunteers to relax and be around people, chat, have a hot drink and make new friends.

Our team of volunteers work in both the free shop and the welcome hub and can refer a service user to any of our partner organisations, who work with Refugees and Asylum seekers in Bristol, should the service user require additional or specialised support.

We continue to run our hugely successful Women's group, which has seen its numbers grow significantly this year. The group is open to all refugee and asylum-seeking women, to meet, socialise and join a variety of activities, thus relieving isolation and loneliness.

Aid Box Community reimburses travel costs for service users, some of whom are completely destitute and others who live on £5 a day, enabling service users to attend the free shop and welcome hub, thereby reducing isolation and loneliness.

We also run Aid Box Connections, an online and over the phone befriending service that connects our volunteers with service users for weekly catch ups.

We use social media and school / business presentations to raise awareness of the plight of refugees and asylum seekers and have begun to explore the possibilities of employing a dedicated communications coordinator.

To ensure that we are protecting all our stakeholders during lockdown measures, we are running a click and delivery service for our Aid distribution.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

We now have a team consisting of:

CEO

Founder/Director of Operations

Volunteer Coordinator

Aid Coordinator

Bookkeeper

Grant's Fundraiser

Project Coordinator (part-time)

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

This year we have focused on maintaining a service in incredibly difficult circumstances, by acting quickly and responding to local needs we are proud to have delivered the following services:

Aid Box Emergency Aid - Focused on the rapid distribution of food and essential living items for those shielding or in isolation.

We enlisted volunteer drivers from a wide spectrum of the community and obtained key worker status from Bristol Council.

From April until October, we made 1360 deliveries to 255 households. 51 of the recipients were existing Aid box Community registered service users and the remaining 204 were new to our organisation.

As with all our initiatives, the essential aid project had volunteer power at its heart, and this was no different, with 24 volunteer delivery drivers, 6 volunteer aid sorters and 2 volunteer admin coordinators giving us approximately 3000 hours of their time.

The initial idea for this project was borne from a collective discussion with all of our partner organisations in Bristol, who also support refugees and asylum seekers, where it was agreed that Aid Box Community were best placed to distribute aid. During this period, we received 204 referrals from 20 organisations working across the city, more than half referred by Bristol Refugee Rights, Red Cross, Borderlands and Unseen.

As a result of our interaction with service users during the pandemic, and in addition to aid distribution, we set up the AidBox Connections programme.

Connections is designed to match a volunteer with an asylum seeker or refugee who would benefit from a friendly voice at the end of the phone on a regular basis.

By the end of June 2020, the Connections programme had connected 25 volunteers with 35 service users. When matched, volunteers undertake a 12-week connection program with their service user. During this time, the volunteer receives support, supervision, and training. After this period, it is hoped that the matched pair will go on to form long lasting friendship independent of our ongoing support.

Having assessed the project during July, a new group of volunteers underwent training and were connected to 20 new service users, with the new 12-week cycle being completed at the end of December and a further new cycle beginning in April 2021.

During this time, we were able to produce relevant service information in a multitude of languages, which has been invaluable to our service users.

To date, we have been able to recruit and train 40 volunteers who have been successfully paired with 55 service users. The connections programme has become an important, integral part of our service and as we start the new year, we are preparing to commence a new round of Connections in February. Considering the findings from the two rounds successfully completed, the aim of the project remains the same, for the pairs to successfully complete the project and remain in contact as friends independently of ABC.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

To ensure we are complying with the most up to date Covid health and safety advice, ABC has developed a covid safe mechanism of collecting and delivering essential aid to our service users. To date we have made 531 deliveries of essential aid averaging around 25 items each time.

Achievements against objectives set

Our Main objective for this year was to ensure we could operate safely whilst reaching as many of our service users as possible. As a team we decided to place our long-term strategy on hold for this period whilst we focused on the difficult challenges ahead. We are pleased to say that we surpassed our expectations, both in terms of fundraising and of expected numbers of people we reached and were able to support.

Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set

In 2020/2021 we raised £237,749 against a forecast of £206,180.

Our fundraising efforts revolved around 5 pillars:

Events

Corporate donations

Individual donations: One off

Individual donations: Regular

Ad-Hoc and Misc. Income

Contribution of volunteers

Volunteers are key to our existence as a charity. Without their considerable contribution we would not be able to run.

Our volunteer coordinator has successfully recruited 48 new volunteers for this period and continues to ensure that volunteering is at the heart of what we do.

Financial Review

We have in place a reserve fund that equates to the charity's current expenditure of three months. This reserve fund is separate from the charities bank account which is used for working capital.

This year we intend to incrementally increase this figure with a view to reaching 5 months reserve by the end of the year.

Our balance on the 31st of March 2021 was £124,000 of which £35K was held as reserves and £10,856 was restricted.

Aid Box Community holds £35K in reserves for running costs to honour our commitments for redundancy, payroll, suppliers, and taxes for a 3-month period.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Principal risks facing the charity

As with all charities, the principal risk that Aid Box Community faces is funding. Whilst we saw an increase in our overall fundraising this year, we are aware that Covid19 poses a very real threat to our ability to run events and apply for longer term unrestricted grants.

To mitigate against these risks, we have taken the following action:

- Review and reset budget forecasts
- Adapted our service delivery model
- Engaged with partner organisations in a much more genuine and efficient manner
- Reviewed our organisational structure to maximise output and minimise costs
- Created a more robust finance policy and finance sub-committee.

Funds received as agent or funds held as custodian trustee

There are no assets, classes of assets or categories of assets held on behalf of other entities.

Independent examiners

The trustees confirm that to the best of their knowledge there is no information relevant to the independent examination of which the examiners are unaware. The trustees also confirm that they have taken all necessary steps to ensure that they themselves are aware of all relevant examination information and that this information has been communicated to the examiners.

Joanne Trowbridge of Bristol Community Accountants CIC was appointed as the charity's independent examiner during the year. Joanne Trowbridge is a member of the Association of Accounting Technicians.

The report was approved by the trustees on and signed on its behalf by:

.....

Sarah Rice - Chair

AID BOX COMMUNITY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2021 which are set out on pages 9 to 17.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

Joanne Trowbridge MAAT

.....
Bristol Community Accountants CIC
The Park
Daventry Road
Knowle Bristol BS4 1DQ

.....2021

AID BOX COMMUNITY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	Note	£	£	£	£
Incoming and Endowments from:					
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>					
Donations and legacies	3	138,614	99,208	237,822	145,953
Investments	4	-	-	-	12
Total		138,614	99,208	237,822	145,965
Expenditure On:					
Raising funds	5	-	3,339	3,339	2,767
Charitable activities	6	90,193	103,329	193,522	122,445
Other	7	707	-	707	515
Total		90,900	106,668	197,568	125,727
Net income/(expenditure)		47,714	(7,460)	40,254	20,238
Transfers between funds	16	11,125	(11,125)	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) before other gains and losses		58,839	(18,585)	40,254	20,238
Net movement in funds		58,839	(18,585)	40,254	20,238
Total funds brought forward		54,305	29,441	83,746	63,508
Total Funds Carried Forward	16	113,144	10,856	124,000	83,746

All of the activities of the charity are classed as continuing

The notes on pages 11 to 17 form part of these financial statements

As required by paragraph 4.67 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the Balance Sheet.

See note 18 for full comparative for 2020

AID BOX COMMUNITY

BALANCE SHEET

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	15	1,250	1,875
Current assets			
Debtors	13	675	2,773
Cash at bank and in hand		129,501	81,209
<i>Total current assets</i>		<u>130,176</u>	<u>83,982</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(7,426)	(2,111)
<i>Net current assets or liabilities</i>		<u>122,750</u>	<u>81,871</u>
Total net assets or liabilities		<u><u>124,000</u></u>	<u><u>83,746</u></u>
The Funds of the Charity	17		
Restricted funds		10,856	29,441
Unrestricted funds		113,144	54,305
		<u>124,000</u>	<u>83,746</u>

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on and are signed on their behalf by:

.....
Sarah Rice - Chair

The notes on pages 11 to 17 form part of these financial statements

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Basis of Preparation

- a) These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, as amended by Update Bulletin 2 published in October 2018, effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019 and with the Charities Act 2011.

- b) Change in basis of preparation

The charity trustees have chosen to prepare the financial statements on the accruals basis. The trustees feel this results in the accounts providing more appropriate and relevant information about the financial performance of the charity. The prior year figures were prepared on a cash basis and have therefore been restated for comparison reason.

- c) The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.
d) The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

2 Accounting Policies

- a) Income from donations is included in income when these are receivable, except as follows:

i) When donors specify that donations given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods.

ii) When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred until the pre-condition have been met.

- b) Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Expenditure includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

- c) Most expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities, and has been included in those cost categories. Support cost have been allocated 100% towards the charitable activities of the charity.

- d) Rentals applicable to operating lease agreements where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

- e) Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

- f) Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

- g) Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset. Depreciation is not charged in the year of purchase:

Motor Vehicles - 25% reducing balance

- h) The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

- i) The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. Pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the charitable company during the year.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Income and Endowments From:

3 Donations and Legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
General Donations	96,647	-	96,647	38,006
Grants	34,000	91,208	125,208	16,388
Grants - Martin Smith Foundation	-	8,000	8,000	14,000
Fundraising Income	305	-	305	73,461
Gift Aid	4,652	-	4,652	2,593
Miscellaneous Income	-	-	-	1,505
CJRS Grant	3,010	-	3,010	-
	<u>138,614</u>	<u>99,208</u>	<u>234,812</u>	<u>145,953</u>

Donations and legacies - prior year

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2020
	£	£	£
General Donations	38,006	-	38,006
Grants	208	16,180	16,388
Grants - Martin Smith Foundation	-	14,000	14,000
Fundraising Income	73,461	-	73,461
Gift Aid	2,593	-	2,593
Miscellaneous Income	1,505	-	1,505
	<u>115,773</u>	<u>30,180</u>	<u>145,953</u>

4 Investments	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest receivable	-	-	-	12
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12</u>

Investments prior year - all unrestricted

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Expenditure on:

5 Raising Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising Staff Costs	-	3,339	3,339	2,767
	-	3,339	3,339	2,767

Raising funds prior year - all restricted

6 Charitable Activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Staff Costs	39,640	39,827	79,467	69,430
Freelance costs	12,493	10,164	22,657	-
Travel	880	4,881	5,761	5,350
Training and supervision	4,294	-	4,294	75
Rent, Rates and Utilities	8,395	10,000	18,395	19,473
Refugee, Volunteer and Hub Expenses	3,454	33,535	36,989	5,927
Internet, Phone and IT	3,837	623	4,460	2,433
Insurance	1,184	-	1,184	527
Stationery and Printing	275	-	275	1,825
Repairs and Equipment	802	599	1,401	4,740
Marketing and Subscriptions	1,531	485	2,016	3,087
Professional Fees	-	-	-	3,722
Bookkeeping and Payroll	11,482	3,120	14,602	4,205
Bank Charges	-	-	-	60
Vehicle costs	1,047	-	1,047	870
Miscellaneous	254	95	349	96
Depreciation	625	-	625	625
	90,193	103,329	193,522	122,445

Charitable Activities -prior year

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2020
	£	£	£
Staff Costs	66,956	2,474	69,430
Travel and Training	5,425	-	5,425
Rent, Rates and Utilities	15,473	4,000	19,473
Refugee, Volunteer and Hub Expenses	4,048	1,879	5,927
Internet, Phone and IT	2,433	-	2,433
Insurance	527	-	527
Stationery and Printing	1,738	87	1,825
Repairs and Equipment	4,740	-	4,740
Marketing and Subscriptions	3,019	68	3,087
Professional Fees	3,722	-	3,722
Bookkeeping and Payroll	4,205	-	4,205
Bank Charges	60	-	60
Vehicle costs	870	-	870
Miscellaneous	96	-	96
Depreciation	625	-	625
	113,937	8,508	122,445

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

7 Other	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Independent Examination and accounts preparation fee	707	-	707	515
	<u>707</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>707</u>	<u>515</u>

Other prior year - all unrestricted

8 Net incoming resources for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Independent Examiner's fee	479	443
	<u>479</u>	<u>443</u>

9 Staff Costs and numbers

The aggregate payroll costs were:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	74,508	66,540
Social Security Costs	3,158	1,656
Pension Costs	1,801	1,234
	<u>79,467</u>	<u>69,430</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 (2020: £Nil)

The average monthly head count was 4 staff (2020: 4)

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the board of trustees & the Chief Executive Officer. The total employee benefits of key management personnel, during the year, total £39,415 (2020: £31,649).

10 Related Party Transactions

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2020: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2020: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2020: £nil).

During the year, Aid Box Trading Ltd, gifted profits from their trading activities to Aid Box Community.

In November 2020, Aid Box Community loaned Aid Box Trading £3,000 which was repaid in full to Aid Box Community in December 2020.

Trustees of Aid Box Community who are also directors of Aid Box Trading Ltd are Sarah Rice and Holly Solo-Hawthorn.

Robin Adlem is an employee of Aid Box Community and a director of Aid Box Trading Ltd.

There were no other related party transactions during the year.

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

11 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

12 The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at year end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on assets of the CIO.

13 Debtors	2021	2020
	£	£
Other debtors	675	2,773
	<u>675</u>	<u>2,773</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	4,421	112
Social Security and Taxes	2,298	1,484
Accruals and deferred Income	707	515
	<u>7,426</u>	<u>2,111</u>

15 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Motor Vehicle	Total
	£	£
Cost		
At 1 April 2020	2,500	2,500
At 31 March 2021	<u>2,500</u>	<u>2,500</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2020	625	625
Charge for the year	625	625
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,250</u>	<u>1,250</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,250</u>	<u>1,250</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>1,875</u>	<u>1,875</u>

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

16 Analysis of Charitable Funds

	01-Apr 2020	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	At 31-Mar 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	52,430	138,614	(90,275)	11,125	111,894
Designated funds					
Vehicle Depreciation	1,875	-	(625)	-	1,250
Total unrestricted funds	<u>54,305</u>	<u>138,614</u>	<u>(90,900)</u>	<u>11,125</u>	<u>113,144</u>
Restricted funds					
Martin Smith Foundation - Vol Coordinator	5,500	-	(5,500)	-	-
Martin Smith Foundation - Fundraiser	2,573	-	(2,573)	-	-
Martin Smith Foundation - Rent New Building	4,000	8,000	(8,000)	-	4,000
Quartet Community Foundation	3,222	-	(3,222)	-	-
Covid 19 Action Plan	208	10,000	(5,244)	-	4,964
Nisbets	5,688	13,694	(19,382)	-	-
National Lottery	8,250	-	-	(8,250)	-
SU Support	-	30,000	(30,000)	-	-
Swan Mountain Womens Group	-	7,375	(4,500)	(2,875)	-
Charity Aid Foundation	-	4,000	(2,565)	-	1,435
	-	26,140	(25,683)	-	457
Total restricted funds	<u>29,441</u>	<u>99,209</u>	<u>(106,669)</u>	<u>(11,125)</u>	<u>10,856</u>
Total funds	<u>83,746</u>	<u>237,823</u>	<u>(197,569)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>124,000</u>

Transfer of funds - Income in the previous year from Nisbets was incorrectly identified as a restricted fund and has been transferred in the current year to the unrestricted funds.

Purpose of restricted funds

Martin Smith Foundation - Volunteer Coordinator and fundraiser positions and rent costs

New Building - Support of new building

Quartet Community Foundation - Tool library & Coronavirus Recovery & Stabilisation Programme

Covid 19 Action Plan - Donations

Nisbets - General Hub expenses

National Lottery

SU Support - fundraising campaign for individual family support costs

Swan Mountain WG - Womens Group

Charity Aid Foundation - Resilience Fund to continue your organisation's core work or Covid-19 emergency response activities

AID BOX COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Tangible Fixed Assets	-	1,250	-	1,250
Cash at Bank and in Hand	119,320	-	10,181	129,501
Other Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)	(7,426)	-	675	(6,751)
Total	111,894	1,250	10,856	124,000

18 Analysis of prior year funds, as required by paragraph 4.2. of the SORP

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2020 £
Income and Endowments From:			
Donations and legacies	115,773	30,180	145,953
Investments	12	-	12
Total	115,785	30,180	145,965
Expenditure On:			
Raising funds	-	2,767	2,767
Charitable activities	113,937	8,508	122,445
Other	515	-	515
Total	114,452	11,275	125,727
Net income/(expenditure)	1,333	18,905	20,238
Transfers between funds	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	1,333	18,905	20,238
Total funds brought forward	52,972	10,536	63,508
Total Funds Carried Forward	54,305	29,441	83,746