

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025
FOR
OUR WARM WELCOME CIO**

Charity Registration Number : 1174765

OUR WARM WELCOME CIO

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OUR WARM WELCOME CIO

CHARITY INFORMATION
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Charity Registration Number : 1174765

Trustees	Ms J Cottrell
	Ms K E Lawrenson MBE
	Rev. K Duffy
	G J Pennington
Registered Office	Corpus Christi RC Church Presbytery Alfred Street Rainford ST. Helens WA11 8BY
Independent Examiner	P Buck FCA, DChA Champion TLL Accountants Ltd 7 - 9 Station Road Hesketh Bank Preston PR4 6SN
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank Nine Brindleyplace Birmingham B1 2HB

OUR WARM WELCOME CIO

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the period since registration at 21st September 2017.

Objectives of the Charity

To prevent or relieve poverty amongst asylum seekers and those granted refugee status, and their dependents, living (temporarily or permanently) in St Helens and the surrounding area, by providing, but not limited to, information, advice, and language skills.

To advance the education and training of asylum seekers and those granted refugee status, and their dependents, living (temporarily or permanently) in St Helens and the surrounding area, so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community.

The provision of services / facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation for asylum seekers and those granted refugee status, and their dependents, living (temporarily or permanently) in St Helens and the surrounding area with the object of improving the conditions of life of those persons who have need of such facilities by reason of their financial hardship or social and economic circumstances.

The advancement of human rights/promotion of racial harmony and diversity for the public benefit by education and raising awareness in equality and diversity, and promoting activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds.

The relief of financial hardship or other disadvantage amongst asylum seekers and those granted refugee status, and their dependents, living (temporarily or permanently) in St Helens and the surrounding area, by providing financial support and / or guidance.

Governance and Trustees

The Charity is not a company, but registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and governed by a model constitution adopted on 21st September 2017.

The Trustees named on page 1 form a committee who are responsible for the management of the Charity and its activities.

New Trustees can be appointed by a resolution of the existing Trustees.

Training and induction is provided verbally by existing Trustees.

Details of activities and achievements for the year

Operational Overview

Our Warm Welcome has continued to operate from the St Helens Parish Church hall throughout this period. This partnership remains a cornerstone of our work, providing a dual-level space that allows us to maximize our utility; our drop-in café continues to flourish upstairs, while English language tuition remains a vital fixture on the ground floor.

The past year has seen a significant surge in demand, with our weekly attendance now reaching nearly 100 individuals. This growth reflects both the increasing need in the community and the reputation of the center as a safe, welcoming environment.

Crisis Support and Hotel Outreach

We maintain a critical presence at the local hotel, though the nature of this support has become more demanding. The high turnover of occupants means we are frequently meeting new arrivals who possess very few belongings. Our collaboration with the SVP (Society of Saint Vincent de Paul) remains instrumental; their local shop continues to be our primary resource for clothing and essential supplies.

However, this year has not been without significant challenges. In August 2025, we witnessed a step-change in local tensions as protests began at the hotel site. We remain vigilant and continue to work closely with the police and our local partners to prioritize the safety of our service users and volunteers during this period of heightened sensitivity.

OUR WARM WELCOME CIO

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

Details of activities and achievements for the year (continued)

Partnerships and Funding

Collaboration remains the lifeblood of our operations. While we were saddened to see the Parish Nurse program conclude this year, our network remains robust. We continue to work alongside Housing Associations, Health Professionals, Refugee Women Connect, St Marks, Tango, SHAP, the British Red Cross, and other dedicated agencies.

Our bike distribution initiative—a vital link for transport—has been spasmodic this year due to the illness of key leads. We are currently actively seeking new partners to help stabilize and expand this project to ensure consistent access for our users.

We are incredibly grateful for the continued financial backing for our operational costs (transport, equipment, and food supplies) from:

St Helens Parish Trust

Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund

Rotary Club

LCRCA

Future Outlook and Premises

The Church of England's deanery-level property review remains a point of focus. Our current base at the Parish Church hall is now officially on the market. While a sale has not yet been finalized, we are working proactively with the Vicar and the Parish Council to explore alternative locations. Despite the uncertainty of the building, the Parish continues to view our mission as a key component of their future vision as a Minster, and we are committed to ensuring our operations continue to serve St Helens regardless of the venue."

Donations can be made by visiting

www.justgiving.com/ourwarmwelcome

Despair is contagious so is hope. Let's become infected by hope and spread it to all we meet.

OUR WARM WELCOME CIO

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES - Continued.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance regarding public benefit and are satisfied that the activities of the Charity, as described above, meet the necessary criteria.

Risk analysis

The Trustees have identified, as required, the major risks to which the Charity is exposed.

The Trustees consider that they have taken such action and put in place policies, procedures and controls which will mitigate the identified risks and assist in maintaining the future financial viability of the Charity.

Remuneration of Trustees

During the year none of the Trustees of the Charity received remuneration for the provision of their position as trustee to the Charity.

Transactions and financial position

The results for the period ended 30th September 2021 are shown on the appended pages. Accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis rather than an accruals basis, as permitted under the Charity SORP 2015 relating to smaller charities.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are required to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of its results for that period (based on Receipts and Payments). In preparing those Financial Statements the Trustees are required to:

- a. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- b. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c. Prepare the Financial Statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy and at any time, the financial position of the Charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

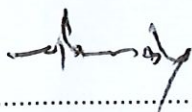
Reserves Policy

The Charity has completed its sixth year and has achieved a reserves balance of £27,947 - being the closing bank balances. £24,887 of this is for restricted purposes (including around £10,000 Lottery funding that relates to the following year to be spent in 2025/26, leaving an unrestricted, free-fund of £4,658. This is a reasonable balance to help fund day-to-day activities as we move into our seventh year. As activities are more established and the Charity grows, we will be able to determine a regular cost base upon which we can set our target reserves level in order to ensure ongoing sustainability.

Investment Policy

The Trustees are responsible for the investment of any surplus funds of the Charity. As such funds may be required for immediate use, the Trustees continue to review various interest bearing, instant access deposit accounts in which to place such monies.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 26/3/2026 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
G J Pennington

OUR WARM WELCOME CIO

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO TRUSTEES

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Our Warm Welcome for the twelve month period ended 30th September 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

I confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....
Mr P Buck FCA, DChA
Champion TLL Accountants Ltd
7 - 9 Station Road
Hesketh Bank
Preston
PR4 6SN

Date: 30/3/26

OUR WARM WELCOME CIO
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	
<u>Receipts</u>				
Donations	4,075		4,075	1,739
Grants	13,300	27,713	41,013	11,840
Interest Received	220		220	-
Total receipts	17,595	27,713	45,308	13,579
<u>Payments</u>				
<u>Charitable Activities</u>				
Room Hire/ Rent	7,998		7,998	3,641
Training Resources and Equipment		15,840	15,840	21,033
Travel/Mileage		4,706	4,706	6,586
Insurance	564		564	453
Cyclists club	140		140	1,164
Independent Examiner Fee	816		816	780
Bank charges	71		71	288
Total payments	9,590	20,546	30,135	33,945
Net of receipts and payments	8,005	7,167	15,172	(20,366)
 Cash funds last year end	 (3,347)	 17,720	 12,775	 33,141
Cash funds this year end	4,658	24,887	27,947	12,775

Closing Restricted funds include around £10,000 of Lottery Grants that we received in this year but relate to work to be done next year, and will be expended accordingly.


OUR WARM WELCOME CIO

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
30th SEPTEMBER 2025

	Unrestricted Fund Total 2025 £	Restricted Fund Total 2025 £	Fund Total 2025 £	Fund Total 2024 £
<u>Cash/Bank funds</u>				
General account	3,060	5,161	8,221	2,156
Savings account	-	19,726	19,726	10,619
	<u>3,060</u>	<u>24,887</u>	<u>27,947</u>	<u>12,775</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Professional fees 2024/2025 to be billed after year end :-				
Independent examination (Including VAT)	(780)	-	(780)	(780)
	<u>(780)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(780)</u>	<u>(780)</u>

These accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis and as such there is no 'Balance Sheet'.

These accounts were approved by the Trustees on 26/3/2026 and signed on their behalf by:


.....
G J Pennington