



Trustees' Annual Report

01/04/2024 – 31/03/2025



COMPAS Charity (Charity number: 1176025)
Registered office: 27, Rivergate Arcade, Peterborough, PE1 1EL

Annual Review & Financial Statement 2024-2025

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Legal and Administrative information

Board of Trustees	Beverley Carpenter Helena Ground Radim Licenik Roman Masaryk
Chief Executive Officer	Petr Torak MBE
Charity number	1176025
Registered address	COMPAS Charity 27, Rivergate Arcade Peterborough, PE1 1EL
HR and H&S provider	Peninsula
Bank	HSBC Bank and Lloyds Bank
Accountant	Money Talks Accountancy Ltd
Independent Examiner	Joanna Fox ACMA
Constitution adopted	10 th March 2018
Number of Members	17
Affiliations	1. Consortium of Peterborough Community Groups (CPCG) 2. Peterborough Community Group Forum (PCGF) 2. Association of Czech and Slovak Schools (ACSSUK) 3. Peterborough Council for Voluntary Sector (PCVS) 4. Society of Czech & Slovak Doctors in the UK 5. You Are Not Alone (YANA) 6. Living Wage Employer
Policies in place	Safeguarding, Equal Opportunities, Code of Conduct, Data Protection, Financial Procedures, GDPR, H&S, Web privacy, Whistleblowing, Fire procedure, COVID policies

Board of Trustees' report

The Board of Trustees submit their annual report and the financial statements of COMPAS Charity for the period of 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025. The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with current statutory requirements, including the Charity Act 2011, as well as the requirements of the Charity's governing document.

COMPAS (previously known as Community Partnership Group) was established in 2010 as an un-incorporated community group. In 2017 COMPAS became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Objectives of COMPAS Charity and examples of activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objectives are:

OBJECTIVES	EXAMPLES
Relief in need of members of migrant communities by the provision of advice, support and information or in any other way required; and by engaging with service providers, public bodies, institutions and organisations to enable those entities to better adapt their services, policies and activities to the needs of the migrant communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advice centre• Workshops• Advice over the phone and via social media• Assistance to schools, social services, Council etc
Promotion of social inclusion for the public benefit by working with people who are socially excluded on the grounds of their ethnic origin, religion, belief or creed (in particular, members of the Roma community) by developing the capacity and skills of members of that community to assist them to integrate with and participate more fully in society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roma mentoring projects ('ROGA')• Food provision, help with essentials and breakfast club, shopping vouchers
The advancement of citizenship and community development by promoting a better understanding within British society; and by promoting civic responsibility, good citizenship and volunteering.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supporting new and small community organisations across the UK• Assistance to front line services (NHS, police, Councils etc)• Exhibitions at schools and museum
The advancement of education (including social and physical training) of people in such ways as the charity trustees think fit, including by promoting the learning of native languages (including but not limited to Czech and Slovak); supporting parents to engage with their children's education; and mentoring and coaching young people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ROGA mentoring project• Carbon Monoxide alarms distribution and advice• Fitness classes

Cost benefit summary

CATEGORY	AVARAGE NO. OF CLIENTS PER YEAR	AVARAGE COST BENEFIT
Housing	800	£195,560
Benefit	1,900	£3,844,300
EUSS help	2,800	unknown
Job finding	400	£350,860
Physical health	120	£321,220
Mental health, volunteering, cohesion	100	£8,361,450
Energy, safety appliances advice	500	£790,880
Crime, domestic abuse, debt advice	440	£1,118,525
Translation of letters & phone calls	600	unknown
Carbon Monoxide alarms	240	£22,800
Slow cookers distribution	120	unknown
Breakfast club and ROGA mentoring	18,000	unknown
TOTAL	26,020	Over £14m p/y

Source: Cadent Gas cost benefit calculator. The figures are based on statistics from 2018 and therefore it is likely that the total cost benefit will be much bigger.

Overview of activities and projects

The achievements of the past year would not have been possible without the support from the following organisations: Tudor Trust, Cadent Gas Ltd, Peterborough City Council, Queen Katharine Academy, Heriot-Watt University, Essex University, Cambridge University, Lottery Heritage Fund, Velehrad Fund, Czech Embassy, Colyer Fergusson Fund and other supporters.

We are also very grateful to all volunteers, staff, members, students on their study placements and other supporters promoting the work of COMPAS Charity.

Advice provision

This is an ongoing and strongest strand of our work. The start of this service dates to 2012. It includes free advice provision in the areas of job finding, EU settled status, housing, employment, education, social benefits, health, energy efficiency etc.

We have been offering advice service in Peterborough and Margate in person as well as remotely via social media and over the phone.

The service in Peterborough is running 5 days a week, from 10am to 5pm, by 5 advisers, in 8 different languages. In Margate, the service has been provided by one member of staff.

During the past 12 months, we have assisted to over 4900 clients! We are very grateful for the financial support from Cadent Gas Ltd; without their support we wouldn't be able to support that many clients! We are also very grateful to Migrant Help for providing pro bono immigration solicitor to help our clients with EU Settlement scheme enquiries.

Margate

Our branch Manager, Veronika Kroschenova, had been providing advice service to clients and schools. We are very thankful to Colyer Fergusson Fund for their support.

Unfortunately, the funding came to end in May 2025 and therefore we will be closing the Margate branch for the time being. We are very grateful to Veronika and her passion for the work and we will be looking forward to work with her soon again.



Picture 1 – Advice centre



Picture 2 – Immigration solicitor



Picture 3 – community meeting in Margate

Roma of Great Abilities (ROGA)

ROGA mentoring project continues to be one of the biggest ‘flag ships’ of our organisation. In 2011, COMPAS had developed a mentoring project called ROGA that aims to motivate young Roma to access further education (Level 4 and above) and to develop useful skills that will enable them to take up front line jobs in teaching, law enforcement, NHS and other areas of public life.

ROGA methodology is based on holistic approach to mentoring and raising aspiration of Roma children and young people. It involves all the stakeholders – learners, parents, teachers, school management, community groups and leaders and public authorities.

Between the interim period, ROGA continued to be implemented across primary and secondary schools in Peterborough (predominantly at Queen Katharine Academy and Gladstone Primary Academy). We are currently reviewing our ROGA strategy but are hoping to continue this project and to expand it to other schools.



Picture 4 – Roma day at QKA



Picture 5 – Presentation at COPA

Breakfast club

Peterborough City Council continued funding Compas through the Household Support Fund to run the breakfast club for pupils. On average, we have given out 500 breakfast & lunch bags every week. This provision was offered from outside of our Compas office that is situated right next to the school entrance. This project came to an end in September 2024 and was replaced with distribution of food vouchers and essential items for people in need. We have distributed over 1200 vouchers during the funding period.



Picture 6 – Breakfast club outside Compas



Picture 7 – Breakfast club volunteers

Baripen Archive

After the successful transportation and storage of Paul Polansky's archive, we have managed to secure funding from Lottery Heritage Fund to sort the archive, preserve it in the most appropriate way, to record oral histories, to conduct workshops at schools and to display the work at various locations.

During the interim period, we have conducted the following activities:

- Created Baripen Steering group consisting of members from academia, Roma activists, charity sector experts, representatives from museums and other experts. Baripen steering group met 1 times during the project.
- Exhibited the work and life of Paul Polansky at 6 events
- Exhibited the work and life of Paul Polansky at 5 school events (accessed over 1600 pupils)
- Acquired further 1 other archives (Robert Dawson, Thomas Acton, Grattan Puxon, Willie Reid and Ian Hancock)
- Recovered remaining archive from Nis
- Established strong link to the House of Lords (Baroness Janet Whitaker)
- Recorded x oral histories
- Registered with Community Archives and Heritage Group website and later were also selected as winners for the Group of the Month.
- Attended an international conference in Malmo, Sweden about Romani Holocaust and also commemoration of Lety concentration camp in Czechia
- Organised a month-long exhibition at Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery, which was viewed by over 2k visitors.



Picture 8 – Robert Dawson



Picture 9 – Thomas Acton



Picture 10 – Grattan Puxon



Picture 11 – Oral history in Kosovo



Picture 12 – More resources from Serbia



Picture 13 – House of Lords

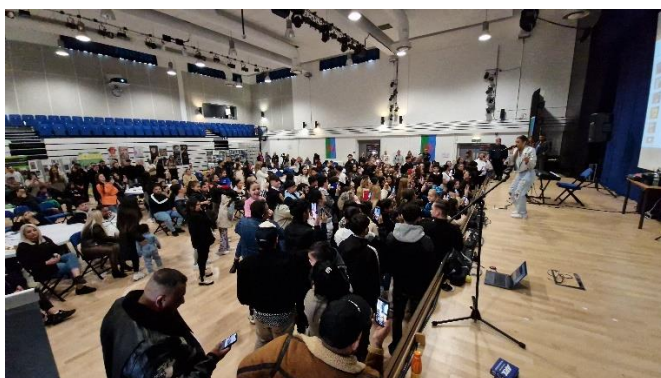
Roma Place Age

Compas Charity had been selected by Harriot Watt University in Edinburgh as one of 4 charities participating in 3 year research project, aiming to research how Roma adults of the age of 40 are ageing within their communities. Four Roma community co-researchers were recruited and trained to conduct semi-structured interviews within the community.

Other events & projects

Celebration of International Romani Day in Peterborough and London

We had two celebrations to mark the International Romani Day. The first one was at the Queen Katherine Academy and was attended by over 250 people. The second event took place at the Czech Embassy in London and was attended by 80 people.



Picture 14 – Roma Day at QKA with Lucie Bikarova



Picture 15 – Roma Day at the Embassy

Roma Got Talent show

In cooperation with the Herriot Watt University, we have organised an event to bring the Roma community together, to introduce the Roma Age Place project and to find and showcase talented young people. Over 300 people attended.



Picture 16 – Talent Show



Picture 17 – Winner of the Talent Show

Caregivers Without Borders - Boa Vista

Since June 2024, Compas established our satellite branch in Cape Verde. Led by Josef Kopecny, Compas has been providing vital support to nurseries, schools and hospitals. Travellers booking their holiday with TUI are able to get a letter from Compas, allowing them to take an extra 20kg luggage, containing essential items. In the interim period we have issued out xx letters, providing over 600 kg of essential items to schools and hospitals. In December 2024, we have also organised Christmas party for children. For number of the children, it had been the first time they saw Santa!



Picture 18 – Nursery



Picture 19 - Supporters



Picture 20 – Josef at hospital



Picture 21 – Xmas party

Peterborough Cultural Centre

And very exciting news at the end – we have upgraded our venue!

In October 2024, we started looking for a new venue as the two offices at Gladstone Park Community Centre were too small and we were unable to deliver as many services as we would love to. We needed more space for our advice centre, a lot more storage space for all our stuff and Baripen archives and more office space for events, meetings and other functions.

We have managed to find a perfect location in the centre that meets all the above criteria – there are number of offices, meeting rooms, storage space and also a sizable function / music room.

We got the keys in January 2025 and started moving in February. At the end of February we officially opened the venue to public and named is as Peterborough Cultural Centre.

Our Vision

As we stand on the threshold of a new chapter in our journey, we are filled with a profound sense of purpose and determination. Over the past years, our charity has tirelessly strived to serve our community, addressing its needs with unwavering dedication and compassion. Yet, as we look ahead, we recognise that our work is far from over; there are still countless lives to touch, stories to preserve, and futures to shape.

In the next 12 months, we envisage a bold expansion of our efforts - a vision rooted in our steadfast commitment to empowering individuals, preserving our heritage, and nurturing the potential of the youngest members of our society.

1. Peterborough Cultural Centre

We want the Peterborough Cultural Centre to become a vibrant and inclusive hub celebrating the rich diversity of Peterborough's communities. Run by Compas Charity, the centre will offer a wide range of cultural, educational, and social activities aimed at fostering understanding, creativity, and community cohesion. With a strong focus on empowering underrepresented groups, the centre will serve as a welcoming space where people from all backgrounds can connect, learn, and thrive together.

Establishing the Peterborough Cultural Centre can offer numerous benefits to the community. Cultural centres play a vital role in fostering social cohesion by providing spaces where individuals from diverse backgrounds can engage in shared cultural practices, thereby building social and cultural bridges.

Moreover, such centres contribute to economic development attracting business and tourists, enhancing property values, and serving as vibrant hubs for community engagement. They also support the preservation and promotion of local heritage, offering residents access to cultural facilities and services that enrich the community identity.

In Peterborough, while there are existing cultural institutions like the Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery, the city has recognised the need for a more comprehensive cultural strategy. The Peterborough Cultural Strategy outlines objectives to nurture new artists and expand cultural offerings over the next decade. However, discussions have highlighted a gap in purpose-built cultural spaces, suggesting that a dedicated cultural centre could significantly enhance the city's cultural landscape.

By establishing the Peterborough Cultural Centre, Compas charity can address this gap, providing a dedicated space for cultural activities, education, and community gatherings, thereby enriching the cultural fabric of Peterborough.

We will aim to use the centre for art exhibitions, cultural celebrations, small events, networking opportunities, and much more.

2. Expanding on advice centre provision

Central to our mission is the belief that every person deserves access to guidance, support, and empowerment. Our advice centre has long been a beacon of hope for those navigating life's challenges, offering a sanctuary where individuals can find solace, direction, and practical assistance.

In the coming year, we are determined to expand the reach and impact of our advice centre. Through strategic initiatives, increased resources, and strengthened partnerships, we will ensure that our services are accessible to all who seek them, reaching even the most marginalised and vulnerable members of our community.

We want to achieve this by implementing the following:

Resources – We would like to create various resources for our clients, in various languages. This would include audio-visual and text resources on topics such as EU settlement scheme, benefits, CV writing etc.

Outreach – To enable clients with mobility issues and elderly clients to get in touch with us, we would like to create an online platform to communicate, advise and electronically connect with the clients.

3. Baripen Archive - Completing digitalisation of all archives and creating global network aimed at sharing resources and allowing easy access for everyone

Since the beginning of the project, Compas had fully processed Paul Polansky's archive and also acquired other 7 archives from prominent Roma and pro-Roma activists, academics and writers.

Our vision, combined with vision of Professor Ian Hancock OBE, is to enable full access to our archive. We don't want to become another resource that will be locked in a storage room; we want students, academics and other people to use the archive and its resources. For this reason, we are seeking funding to digitalise the whole archive and to create a platform for sharing the resources. We also have a very ambitious idea to connect all Roma archives, museums and resource centres into a global network of Roma resources.

4. Expanding on our new strand to our work in Early Childhood Development (ECD)

The foundation of every thriving community lies in the well-being and development of its youngest members. Recognising this fundamental truth, we are excited to accelerate the recently started project: early childhood development through our initiative 'Caregivers Without Borders'.

In the months ahead, we will embark on a journey to create a comprehensive framework of support and opportunities for children in their formative years. Through our ROGA

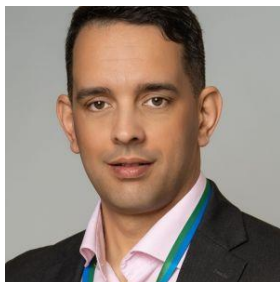
methodology and new innovative programs, parental support initiatives, and collaborations with educators and caregivers, we will lay the groundwork for a future where every child has the opportunity to thrive, flourish, and reach their full potential.

Conclusion

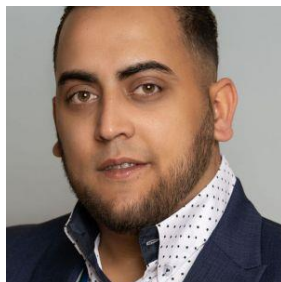
As we embark on this ambitious journey, we do so with humility, gratitude, and an unwavering belief in the power of collective action. Together, we will forge a path towards a brighter, more inclusive future - a future where compassion knows no bounds, history is honoured and preserved, and every child has the opportunity to dream, learn, and grow.

Join us as we embrace the future together, united in our commitment to building a world where hope, dignity, and opportunity abound for all.

Thank you for all your support from Compas Team!



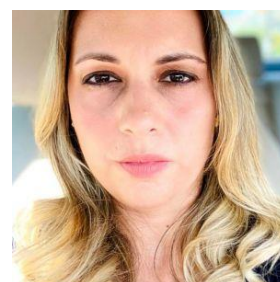
Petr Torak MBE
CEO



Marko Strbak
Advice Centre Mngr.



Raimonda Gecaite
Baripen Manager



Veronika Kroscen
Margate adviser



Michal Mizigar
Project Archivist



Irena Strbakova
Mentor



Margita Strbakova
Adviser



Edy Orbocea
Adviser



Sebastian Vorlicky
Project coordinator




Kamile Parimskyte
Adviser

And our team of Volunteers & Students:

Baripen Steering Group: Judita Grubliene, Christine Alexander, Professor Sheila Watson, Ioana Constantinescu, Professor Ian Hancock, Renata Berkyova, Mila Koleva, Erik Okunola.

Financial Report

Reporting period from 01/04/2024 – 31/03/2025
Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account

	CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Charity Name COMPAS	No (if any) 1176025	
Receipts and payments accounts				CC16a
For the period from		Period start date 01/04/2024	To	Period end date 31/03/2025

Section A Receipts and payments					
	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants	18,441	279,275	-	297,716	199,111
Donations	£2,989	-	-	2,989	8,966
Hire fees	-	-	-	-	-
Events	£855	-	-	855	230
Other	4,719	-	-	4,719	1,031
Sub total (Gross income for AFI)	27,005	279,275	-	306,280	209,338
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	27,005	279,275	-	306,280	209,338
A3 Payments					
Orion venue - rent	-	£36,067.34	-	36,067	6,860
Orion venue - utilities	-	£1,729.06	-	1,729	1,744
Orion venue - refurbishment & repairs	-	£5,858	-	5,858	177
Travel expenses	-	£8,491.86	-	8,492	3,451
Administration	-	£11,319.22	-	11,319	10,150
Stationary	-	£1,352.87	-	1,353	955
Employees	-	£108,477.52	-	108,478	61,401
Contractors	-	£88,958.40	-	88,958	99,945
Activity costs	-	£51,282.44	-	51,282	39,606
Equipment	-	£9,482.27	-	9,482	1,582
Other costs	£2,325.67	-	-	2,326	1,440
Sub total	2,326	323,019	-	325,345	227,311
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	2,326	323,019	-	325,345	227,311
Net of receipts/(payments)	24,679	- 43,744	-	- 19,065	- 17,973
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	1,887	90,967	-	92,854	-
Cash funds this year end	26,566	47,223	-	73,789	- 17,973

Independent examiner's report on the accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Compas

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31/03/2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

1176025

Set out on pages

Attached charity financial report 24/25

(If necessary, to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/03/2025**.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

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

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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

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

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

17/06/2025

Name:

Joanna Fox ACMA

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

Address:

Unit B Greenhill House, Thorpe Road
Peterborough PE3 6RU