

Hull Help for Refugees

Annual Report April 2022/2023

- This year marked our 8th anniversary as an organisation, and 5th year as a charity.
- We have continued our main focus this year on helping locally based asylum seekers and refugees. We have provided regular cash support to two projects abroad.
- We have continued to focus on fundraising and raising awareness.
- We have continued to expand and have about 50 very active volunteers and are followed by nearly 5000 people on our Facebook page.
- We raised nearly £70,000 this financial year.
- Donated £12,000 to other organisations working with asylum seekers abroad.

We have focussed on collecting clothing and household items to distribute to asylum seekers housed locally. We have also raised money, to buy a basic set of new clothes for newly arrived asylum seekers. Often people arrive in this country with nothing, and very little suitable clothing, and often no shoes.

We have also been busy fundraising as well as collecting and sorting items. This means we have been able to continue to support Anne in Athens, (Anne is one of our volunteers based in Athens) and a sewing machine project in Bangladesh, which relies on our funding to provide sewing machines to local women and provide them with training, in order for them to seek employment.

We have worked jointly with local charities, especially Welcome House, an asylum seeker and refugee support organisation. We have a room in their building, and distribute clothing from there, twice weekly.

We have moved to new premises, and attracted new volunteers, many of whom are asylum seekers. We have utilised the skills of some recently arrived asylum seekers, some of whom have professional backgrounds.

We collected and distributed bicycles, which are useful to asylum seekers, however, this proved to be quite costly in terms of repairs, so we decided to stop this activity towards the end of the year.

We enabled asylum seeking volunteers to participate in a local PATT scheme, which grows food for food banks, and plants trees. We provided transport and general support. This means that they can gain valuable voluntary work experience, and references for when they are in a position to seek employment. This activity stopped towards the end of the year.

Additional accommodation for 200 single male asylum seekers has been recently established nearby and we are working with local church groups to provide basic essential clothing.

We took part in the salvage of tents and sleeping bags from the Leeds festival, and arranged for the washing and cleaning of thousands of sleeping bags to take to Calais, to help people trying to claim asylum in the UK to cross the channel.

Main activity April 2022/April 2023.

Fundraising and donations

Our total income for 2022-2023 is £76,138 of which £10,873 was income from events.

Donations:

- Lord Mayors charity for the year.
We were lucky enough to be one of the Lord Mayor of Hull's charities for the year, this gave us a great deal of publicity and we also gained £6000 in fundraising by the Mayor.
- We received a donation of £20,000 from a bequest
- We attracted some large donations from local groups:
£1000 from Mother Humber
£10,000 from The Church of the Latter Day Saints
£1000 from UNISON
- Regular donations: we receive regular monthly donations of £400, and we received £6000 from individual donations

Events:

- We have been very successful in holding events to fundraise and raise awareness. These are examples of some of our major fundraisers. We also have a regular stall at a local car boot fair and a monthly stall at a local market.
- We participated in a yard sale which raised £1400
- A meal cooked by volunteers: £1200
- Carol singing £400
- Art exhibition which raised £1000

Expenditure

As lock down ended we continued being more involved with Hull based asylum seeking families, and single asylum-seeking men housed at the local hotel. Towards the end of the year, we introduced a system of providing a £50 voucher from a local clothing store to give to newly arrived asylum-seeking men to the city. Usually men in this position have only the clothes which they are wearing and we had been providing a set of basic clothing. However, it made more sense for the men to choose their own clothes. They are provided with a leaflet with a list of clothing, and pictures of the items, a translation app is used to explain about the use of the vouchers. We keep a careful record of who has had a voucher, so there is only one given out per person. It is explained, that they will need to use that to buy shoes and a coat. Feedback from this system is very positive. The men can also access the donated clothing, which is distributed at Welcome House. We were able to use a room at Welcome House, www.welcomehousehull.org.uk a local support charity supporting asylum seekers and refugees, to distribute clothing both new and used. We also organised a trip to the seaside for asylum seeking families.

We received a grant of £5,000, from the Church of the Latter Day Saints, specifically for clothing for the men housed at the local hotel. Many of whom arrived here with no possessions or clothing. They also gave a grant of £5000, to buy clothing for the 200 men housed in in a village nearby.

Expenditure

- We spent £7700 on new clothing for the young men housed at the local hotel. In addition we spent £6400 on vouchers. We also spent £1548 on new rucksacks to distribute.
- We spent £4,500 on clothing and other items for the families housed locally.
- We donated £3740 to Anne in Athens. Anne provides nappies, baby food, food and other essential items to some destitute asylum seeking families based on Athens.
- We donated £4640 to a project in Bangladesh which provides sewing machines and training for women, for them to gain an income.
- We donated £2717 to Care for Calais.

Other Activity

- We salvaged over 1000 sleeping bags along with numerous tents from the Leeds festival, working with Jubilee Church and Raise the Roof homeless charity. We were supported by Hull College and given the use of their industrial washing machines. Local volunteers washed the remainder of the

sleeping bags. In partnership with Yorkshire Aid the majority of sleeping bags were transported to Care4Calais to be distributed to those sleeping rough while fleeing conflict. We also donated sleeping bags to local homeless charities including Emmaus and Raise the Roof.

- We were donated toys from Viking FM www.vikingfm.co.uk Cash for Kids at Christmas. We provided some of these to the Refugee Council for their Christmas party, and distributed the others to families in Hull.
- Our online quiz has continued to generate income of around £150 a month
- We discovered from a group of young Afghan asylum seekers that they went out to play cricket every day in a local park, using plastic equipment. They told us how they'd grown up playing cricket with tape-covered tennis balls. We facilitated four of the young men to attend Cottingham Cricket Club's training sessions, and before long the club signed them up. HHfR provided the men with t-shirts, shorts and trainers as well as a new cricket bat, balls, cricket helmets, gloves and protective wear that they needed to participate in training. While the club provided their 'whites' for league matches, HHfR also bought each of the four spiked cricket shoes. They went on to complete an entire season with the club, and one has even won a trophy for his bowling.

Working with Other Organisations

We have worked very closely with other relevant organisations in the city, especially Welcome House, which provides help and support to asylum seekers and refugees. We have provided support to homeless charities and organisations providing support to deprived families. UNISON www.unison.org.uk has been a major support to use, letting us use their premises for storage and distribution.

Conclusion

Laws and policies regarding asylum seekers have been tightened, which has made life more difficult for people seeking asylum, who are housed in the city.

We have been involved in supporting a local faith based group who are providing clothing to asylum seeking men, housed in a village near to Hull. There were over 200 men housed there during this period. Another hotel in a different nearby village housed 95 single asylum seeking men, we have been financially supporting the local group who have been buying and supplying clothing to these men.

We have found ways to be flexible and still achieve our objectives. Our income has increased substantially this year, due to a large bequest and some large grants.

We anticipate that our income through donations will be less next year. Our number of volunteers has also increased, which means that we can continue to provide clothing and support and develop our activities in other areas.

We have moved accommodation to a large disused warehouse. Our accommodation, is provided free by Hull City Council www.hullcitycouncil and we spend very little in operating expenses.

We can only exist with the good will and energy of our many volunteers, and people who support us financially. It is clear that the situation for people seeking asylum globally is continuing to worsen, and we are keen to play a part, albeit very small in helping people in desperate circumstances both home and abroad.

LG/28.10.23



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	Hull Help for Refugees	No (if any)	1176555
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Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	02/04/2022		01/04/2023

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					
Donations	41,933	-	-	41,933	29,447
Events	10,873	-	-	10,873	8,584
Gift Aid	6,279	-	-	6,279	410
Other income		-	-	-	234
Release of deferred income		-	-	-	1,000
Grants & Other Corp donations	17,053	-	-	17,053	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	76,138	-	-	76,138	39,675
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	76,138	-	-	76,138	39,675
A3 Payments					
Donations paid out	59,617	-	-	59,617	24,462
Operating Expenses	6,479	-	-	6,479	3,605
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	66,096	-	-	66,096	28,067
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	66,096	-	-	66,096	28,067
Net of receipts/(payments)	10,042	-	-	10,042	11,608
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	14,558	-	-	14,558	2,950
Cash funds this year end	24,600	-	-	24,600	14,558

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash at Bank	22,073	-	-
	Cash at PayPal	2,527	-	-
	Less Deferred Income	-	-	-
	Total cash funds	24,600	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Container	Unrestricted	2,392	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Leonne Griggs		



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
Hull Help for Refugees

**On accounts for the year
ended**

01-April-2023

**Charity no
(if any)**

1176555

Set out on pages

1,2

Remember 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 01/04/2023.

**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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Alex de Groot

Date:

28/09/2023

Name:

Alex de Groot

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

CIMA - CGMA, ACMA

Address:

*Apt 206 The Art house, 43 George Street
Manchester
M1 4AB*

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

A handwritten signature or mark, possibly the letters 'Oe' or a stylized 'Q', is written in the center of the large rectangular area.