

## **Hull Help for Refugees Annual Report April 2024/2025**

- This year marked our 10th anniversary as an organisation, and 7th year as a charity.
- We have continued our main aim this year on helping locally based asylum seekers and refugees. We have provided regular cash support to one project abroad.
- We have continued to focus on fundraising and raising awareness.
- We have continued to expand and have about 30 very active volunteers and are followed by nearly 5000 people on our Facebook page.
- We donated to the Sameer project which accommodates urgent cases in Gaza, awaiting medical evacuation.
- Our total income this financial year was £34,000

We have concentrated on collecting clothing and household items to distribute to asylum seekers and refugees housed locally. We have also raised money to buy clothes vouchers for newly arrived asylum seekers. Hull is a dispersal city, and people arrive here straight from the small boat crossings, usually with very few possessions, very little suitable clothing, and sometimes no shoes.

We have been busy fundraising as well as collecting and sorting items. This means we have also been able to support 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 continued to work jointly with local charities, especially Welcome House, (an asylum seeker and refugee support organisation,) and CIAC .

We continue to attract 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.

### **Riots in Hull**

August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024, there were riots in many northern towns, targeted at cities which had hotels housing asylum seekers. The riots in Hull lasted around 16 hours and resulted in many arrests. The local hotel was targeted, and also the local mosque. Shops in the city centre were looted, cars set on fire and bricks thrown. A local garage owned by a

person of a different ethnic origin was threatened and car tyres set alight. It was extremely stressful and dangerous for local asylum seekers who were in the hotel and the mosque at one point housed 500 people seeking safety. 100's of local people gathered the following day to help clean up the litter in the town centre streets.

We received a big increase in donations following the riots, and 3 local people held fundraisers for us, which resulted in over £5000 being donated. We decided to give £500 to the local mosque to help with their costs of feeding so many people over 2 days and a £10.00 voucher to each of the men in the local hotel as a small acknowledgement of the severe stress which they had been under. Many asylum seekers were too scared to leave their houses over the following weeks, and some of our volunteers helped with shopping. Local law firms helping asylum seekers were threatened, which increased anxiety for local charities assisting asylum seekers. The trustees of Hull Help for Refugees decided to ask the Charity Commission for dispensation for their names not to be publicly available.

## **Main activity April 2024/April 2025.**

### **Fundraising and donations**

Our total income for 2024-2025 is £34,000 of which £10,000 was income from events, such as car boot sales, market stalls etc. This is less than the previous financial year, however, we received a large donation of £12,000 from the Church of the Latter Day Saints very soon after the end of the financial year.

### **Donations:**

We were very pleased to receive grants from some local organisations as well as individuals:

- We received £10,000 from The Church of the Latter Day Saints at the end of the previous financial year (2023/2024), which was for use specifically for clothing vouchers for the newly arrived asylum seekers housed at the local hotel, during the period 2024/2025
- £1000 from UNISON
- £2,500 from Marist Fathers
- £1000 from Hull and East Riding Charitable Trust
- Individual donations: we received regular monthly donations of £300 and we received a total of £10,000 from individual donations,

we were also able to claim £2,300 Gift Aid in relation to these individual donations.

### **Events:**

We have been very successful in holding events to fundraise and raise awareness. We raised a total of over £10,000 during this period.

These are examples of some of our major fundraisers. We also have a regular stall at local car boot fairs and a monthly stall at a local market.

- We participated in local yard sales which raised £1400
- Carol singing £260
- Jewellery Party, held by volunteers raised £1100
- Benefit gigs by local musicians which raised: £950

### **Expenditure**

We continued our involvement with Hull based asylum seeking families, and single asylum-seeking men housed at local hotels, the numbers of men in the hotel in Hull doubled after the decision for the men to share rooms, there are now approximately 250.

We provide a 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, their weekly allowance of £9.95 is not sufficient to purchase clothing.

We also provided clothing vouchers to asylum seeking families housed in a hotel.

### **Major Expenditure:**

- £30,000 on vouchers. We also spent £1700 on new rucksacks and we also purchase 2<sup>nd</sup> hand suitcases to distribute.
- £2000 on clothing and other items for the families housed locally.
- We donated £350 monthly to a project in the Rohingya Refugee camp in Bangladesh which provides sewing machines and training for women for them to eventually start a business and earn an income.
- £2000 to the Sameer medical project in Palestine.

### **Working with Other Organisations.**

We work very closely with other relevant organisations in the city: Welcome House, which provides help and support to asylum seekers and refugees. We use a room at Welcome House twice weekly, [www.welcomehousehull.org.uk](http://www.welcomehousehull.org.uk) to distribute donated clothing.

CIAC, <https://www.ciacadvice.com/>

(Community Integration and Advocacy Centre), and use their premises for meetings etc. We did apply for joint premises with CIAC to Hull City Council, but unfortunately were unsuccessful.

We have also provided support to homeless charities and organisations providing support to deprived families.

## **Conclusion**

Our accommodation is provided free by Hull City Council [www.hullcitycouncil](http://www.hullcitycouncil) and we spend very little in operating expenses. We use this accommodation for storing and sorting clothing. We have no paid staff and rely solely on our hardworking volunteers.

We can only exist with the good will and energy of our many volunteers, and people and organisations 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. 1.9.25*



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
	2/4/2024		1/4/2025

### 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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations	14,530	-	-	14,530	7,845
Events	12,784	-	-	12,784	11,282
Gift Aid	2,356	-	-	2,356	2,000
Other income	-	-	-	-	-
Release of deferred income	-	-	-	-	-
Grants & Other Corp donations	4,500	-	-	4,500	20,000
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>34,170</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>34,170</b>	<b>41,127</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>34,170</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>34,170</b>	<b>41,127</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Donations paid out	44,543	-	-	44,543	44,128
Operating Expenses	3,027	-	-	3,027	3,209
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>47,570</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>47,570</b>	<b>47,337</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>47,570</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>47,570</b>	<b>47,337</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 13,400</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 13,400</b>	<b>- 6,210</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>18,390</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,390</b>	<b>24,600</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>4,990</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,990</b>	<b>18,390</b>

## 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Cash at Bank	3,780	-	-
	Cash at PayPal	1,210	-	-
	Less Deferred Income	-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>4,990</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Container	Unrestricted	2,392	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	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		



**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-2025

**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 01/04/2025.

**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 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 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.

**Signed:**

**Date:**

28/7/25

**Name:**

Stephen Hirst

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

ACMA - CIMA

**Address:**

7 Wilson Close

North Ferriby, East Riding of Yorkshire

HU14 3BW

**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.