

**The NNLS Destitute Asylum Seekers Drop In**

**A charity registered under the Charity Commission for  
England and Wales - No 1177599**



**Trustees' Report and Financial Statements**

**for the year to 31 March 2023**

## **The NNLS Destitute Asylum Seekers Drop In**

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## **The NNLS Destitute Asylum Seekers Drop In**

### **Reference and Details of the Charity, its Trustees and Advisers for the year to 31 March 2023**

#### **Trustees**

David Raff	Appointed 30 April 2018
Rickie Burman	Appointed 19 March 2018
Rachel Karp	Appointed 19 March 2018 / retired 19 March 2023
Mildred Levison	Appointed 30 April 2018
Stephen Coleman	Appointed 19 March 2018
Anita Vasisht	Appointed 7 December 2020 / retired 7 December 2023
Ian Karet	Appointed 18 March 2023
Later appointees:	
James Elliot	Appointed 13 June 2023
Catherine Thome	Appointed 13 September 2023
Jocelyn Blumberg	Appointed 13 September 2023
Roma Felstein	Appointed 9 November 2023

#### **Charity registered number**

Charity Commission for England and Wales – 1177599

#### **Registered Office**

C/o The New North London Synagogue  
80 East End Road  
London N3 2SY

#### **Independent Examiner**

Lynton Robert Stock FCA

#### **Bankers**

Barclays Bank  
Leicester  
LE87 2BB

#### **Website**

[www.nnlsdropin.org.uk](http://www.nnlsdropin.org.uk)

## **The NNLS Destitute Asylum Seekers Drop In**

### **Trustees' Report for the year to 31 March 2023**

The Trustees present their report as a registered Charity, together with the financial statements for the year to 31 March 2023, with comparatives for year to 31 March 2022. The Trustees confirm that the report and financial statements of the Charity comply with current statutory requirements; the requirements of the Trust's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102).

The Drop in was established in 2005 by members of The New North London Synagogue in their wish to help and give support to Asylum Seekers in Greater London. The Drop-in registered as a separate charity in 2018.

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

Reference and administrative details are shown in the schedule of members of the board of trustees and professional advisers on Page 3 of the financial statements.

### **The Trustees**

The trustees who served the charity during the reporting year were as follows:

D Raff

R Burman

R Karp – retired 19 March 2023

M Levison

S Coleman

A Vasisht

I Karat – appointed 18 March 2023

### **Structure, governance, and management**

The NNLS Destitute Asylum Seekers Drop in is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) that was entered on the Charity Commission for England and Wales Register of Charities on 19 March 2018, reference 1177599 and is recognised by HM Revenue and Customs, reference EW90044.

Three of the first Trustees were appointed on 19 March 2018 in accordance with the Constitution filed with the Charity Commission and were reappointed as Trustees in March 2021. Trustees are eligible for two three-year tenures as set out in the Charity's constitution. Consequently, D Raff, S Coleman, and M Levison will retire in 2024.

### **Financial review**

The Charity remains dependent on its income from donations from private individuals, trusts, and foundations, all in the UK. The net deficit after expenditures for the year was £15,087 (2022 £38,736) that has been set off against the total general reserve held.

## Objectives and activities

The Trustees have referred to the original Constitution as submitted to the Charity Commission when considering the objectives and activities of the charity in March 2018. The requirement and services provided to Asylum Seekers in Greater London has increased greatly over recent years and the Charity continues to provide necessary basic support in many ways that has included the relief of financial hardship amongst those seeking or granted or refused refugee status and their dependents living (temporarily or permanently) in Greater London; and to preserve and protect the physical and mental health of those seeking or granted refugee status and their dependents.

- The Charity restarted the in-person drop-in sessions at the start of the financial year in April 2022; two years on following the many pandemic lockdowns, during which client numbers increased substantially. On reopening a number of changes to the drop in organisation were made in order to ensure a more enjoyable and safe experience for everyone. The Drop In event is held at a North London school every month, where support is given in the form of financial donations, food, clothing, toiletries, and sanitary products as well as interpreting, and translating, advocacy, signposting for legal and immigration advice, medical signposting for available benefits, education, social support, and friendship. The Charity has succeeded being able to place several new clients with immigration lawyers to assist with their cases, although that is proving more difficult because of the demand.
- The pandemic lockdown was an extremely difficult time for asylum seekers, and the charity's principal objectives did not change; interviews were conducted by phone and in-person when permitted to register newly UK arrivals. New clients had the opportunity to consult with our volunteer lawyers to assist them in their asylum claims and volunteer doctors were able to consult with, as well as to help provide forms to receive free prescriptions and dental care.
- During the pandemic, supermarket vouchers were being sent electronically to mobiles which helped alleviate the hardships being experienced. However, by March 2022, some 955 vouchers were being sent monthly, with the consequent heavy impact on the charity's funds.
- A tele-survey conducted during Winter 2021/22 that checked on all clients' continued eligibility; resulted in finding that a significant number had received 'leave to remain' or had moved away from London in that two years and were therefore no longer eligible for support.
- Asylum seekers generally live in extreme poverty as Home Office support to an adult is given on a payment card is equivalent to less than 50% of general income support; being the official poverty line, however many asylum seekers do not receive this and have no real means of support. Many were given insecure accommodation or were homeless, and then have little access to any form of support that would help them to survive. From 2021-23, a greater number of those arriving in the UK came in small boats and were accommodated in hotels and given some support but limited funds.
- Currently the charity is supporting around 670 asylum seekers and their families, and this number increases monthly after registering new arrivals placed in several local hotels.
- The charity's aim is to continue to help alleviate the poverty and multiple hardships client endure while going through the asylum system and to help them find reputable legal aid solicitors who can assist them with their asylum claims. This will in the longer term, allow them to move forward with their lives and integrate into British society as refugees.
- The Trustees are responsible for governance and the management of the Drop in event which for the year to 31 March 2023 was organised and managed by a sub-committee with Trustee oversight.



In the year to 31 March 2023, there were no salaried employees and all services as described above were carried out by the generosity of volunteers.

In April 2023, the charity contracted the services of a coordinator to manage and organise the monthly drop-in sessions that required an increasing amount of time.

#### **Plans for future periods**

1. To seek and utilise such donations to support the increasing number of asylum seekers and their families
2. To maximise the sustainability of its revenue base
3. To make a difference to the lives of the supported asylum seekers; and
4. To improve the physical, mental, and general well-being of people attending the drop in.

#### **Risk Management**

The NNLS Destitute Asylum Seekers Drop in Charity seeks to identify and manage any risks that may occur that would have significant detrimental impact on the Charity. The Charity has put in place procedures and policy documents to utilise risk management techniques in all relevant aspects of its operations and has integrated risk management as part of its culture.

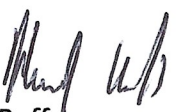
The Charity continues to review these policies and procedures on an ongoing basis to identify, prioritise and assess any risk that it is subject to; and these are also be updated to improve controls and monitor any risks that are identified.

#### **Trustees' responsibilities statement**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (UK General Accepted Accounting Practice) for small charities. The Trustees consider that as both income and assets are below the required levels as required for reporting under the Charities Act an audit is not required for this year and that an independent examination is needed.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable trust's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with Charities Commission requirements. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and take such steps for the protection and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Trustees on <sup>22</sup>January 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

  
D Raff  
Trustee

## **The NNLS Destitute Asylum Seekers Drop In**

### **Independent Examiner's Report for the year to 31 March 2023**

I report to the trustees of the Trust on the examination of the accounts of The NNLS Destitute Asylum Seekers Drop In for the year to 31 March 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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act. The charity's trustees consider that as both income and assets are below the required levels as required for reporting under the Charities Act an audit is not required for this year and that an independent examination is needed.

#### **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 that;

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 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: 

Name: Lynton Robert Stock FCA

Address: 25 Flower Lane, Mill Hill, London NW7 2JG

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024

# The NNLS Destitute Asylum Seekers Drop In

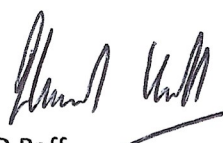
## Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account for the year to 31 March 2023

	Note	Total Unrestricted Funds 2023	Total Unrestricted funds 2022
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations		136,927	206,610
Gift Aid		7,591	11,757
Deposit interest		616	740
<b>Total income</b>	2	<u>145,134</u>	<u>219,107</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities		160,221	257,843
<b>Total expenditure</b>	3	<u>160,221</u>	<u>257,843</u>
<b>Net (deficit) / income</b>		(15,087)	(38,736)
<b>Reserves brought forward</b>		335,691	374,427
		<u>320,604</u>	<u>335,691</u>
<b>Funds held at bank</b>		284,492	325,292
Debtors and creditor	4	36,112	10,399
<b>Total Charities' Funds carried forward</b>		<u>320,604</u>	<u>335,691</u>

Other than the bank account held, the charity does not hold any other assets or have any other liabilities.

The Charity's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small charities. For the year ended 31 March 2023 the charity was not required to obtain an audit.

The financial statements and report were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 22 January 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



D Raff  
Trustee

The notes on pages 9 to 11 form part of these financial statements.



## **The NNLS Destitute Asylum Seekers Drop In**

### **Note to the Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account for the year to 31 March 2023**

#### **1. Accounting Policies**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by small Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to small charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2015. Assets and liabilities are recognised at historical cost unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

##### **1.1 Fund accounting**

Funds are regarded as unrestricted funds which are available for use at the direction of the Trustees and only in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

##### **1.2 Income**

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income. It is probable that the income will be received, and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

##### **1.3 Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer benefit to a third party. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. There were no staff employed and no associated costs incurred in the reporting year in question.

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the Charity and compliance with statutory requirements.

Charitable activities and any governance costs are costs incurred on the charity's operations, including support costs.

##### **1.4 Going concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

##### **1.5 Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when received as payable by the Bank.

##### **1.6 Other debtors**

Other debtors are recognised at the amount shown and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

1.7 Cash at Bank

Cash at bank includes cash and deposit account with immediate access to such funds.

## The NNLS Destitute Asylum Seekers Drop In

### Note to the Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account For the year to 31 March 2023

	Note	Total Unrestricted Funds 2023	Total Unrestricted funds 2022
<b>2. Income received</b>			
Donations		136,927	206,610
Gift Aid		7,591	11,757
Deposit interest		616	740
<b>Total income</b>		<u>145,134</u>	<u>219,107</u>
<b>3. Expenditure on:</b>			
Charitable activities:			
Donations to asylum seekers		107,227	245,867
Drop in expenses including clothing, consumables and other direct expenses made for asylum seekers		45,531	9,375
Security costs		1,994	-
Venue hire costs		4,550	1,925
Insurance		919	676
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>160,221</u>	<u>257,843</u>

In the year to 31 March 2023, there were no salaried employees. No trustee received any remuneration, nor received any benefit in kind.

#### 4. Debtors and creditors

Gift Aid	1,828	2,196
The New North London Synagogue	1,508	1,713
Vouchers and clothing purchased and cash drawn in preparation for future drop ins sessions	35,176	8,210
Accrued expense	(2,400)	(1,720)
	<u>36,112</u>	<u>10,399</u>

#### 5. Related party transactions

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting year that require disclosure.