



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' annual report (including Directors' report) for the period

From: 01.04.2024

To: 31.03.2025

Charity name: Canterbury Welcomes Refugees

Charity registration number: 1181225

Company number: N/A

Objectives and activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The purposes of CWR are to relieve financial hardship, support education, training and employment related activities, preserve physical and mental health, promote social inclusion, improve conditions of life amongst refugees and displaced people and their dependants in the Canterbury area to their benefit and that of the community. These aims are to be achieved through supporting people to access housing, providing loans and grants, practical support, English language support, support to access services and advice.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	CWR has provided practical assistance to support people seeking asylum, refugees resettling in Canterbury and other displaced peoples to relieve financial hardship and encourage community integration. The number of people requiring assistance has increased as more individuals and families are placed in Canterbury by the Home Office and by other local authorities. Support continues for families displaced by the Afghanistan conflict and the ongoing war in Ukraine. CWR is increasingly providing caseworker support to individuals and families placed in Canterbury who are waiting for their asylum application to be assessed and those who have been granted asylum. CWR continues to partner with Canterbury Diocese's social Justice Network and other organisations to support families through projects, such as the Welcome Cafe that provide space for social contact and support to

		<p>navigate the housing, benefits, education and health systems. CWR volunteers support a women only English language and social group organised by the Social Justice Network. CWR has online English language support, and in-person language support by volunteers. Volunteers meet weekly with individuals for language conversation on a one-to-one basis or in very small family groups. CWR works in partnership with Canterbury Diocese and Canterbury City Council to run English classes for beginners and those who have progressed in their English. English lessons are provided by a qualified teacher of English as Second or Other Language (ESOL). The Welcome Café project also includes support for employability training sessions, which are run in cooperation with staff seconded from the Job Centre. The weekly sessions support participants to seek and secure employment, including CV writing skills, writing job applications and volunteering opportunities. CWR volunteers have supported young adults to study towards and apply for university studies. If appropriate, CWR supports beneficiaries in applying for grants from other organisations and may in some cases administer such grants on behalf of other grant-making organisations. CWR has also partnered with Migrant Help to provide assistance with eVisa applications at Welcome Café. CWR participated in events celebrating Refugee Week.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p>The Trustees of CWR are aware of and have regard to the Charity Commission's rules and guidelines on the public benefit of the work that is carried out by CWR. This work has benefit for vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers as well as the wider community by aiming to support and facilitate social integration.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	CWR has an agreed Grant-funding Policy.
	Para 1.38	

Policy on social investment including program related investment		
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	All activities by CWR are carried out by or supported by volunteers from the local community. The majority of volunteer time is spent in individual conversation time with refugees and supporting the projects run with local partner organisations. Helping in this way has provided many hours of much valued support to the beneficiaries. We believe engagement of local volunteers contributes to greater community cohesion. Community engagement for the volunteers helps towards a sense of achievement and making a contribution to society. It can relieve isolation, benefit mental health and build lasting friendships. Former beneficiaries have also gone to become volunteers in the community themselves.
Other		

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	Continued resettlement of refugee families under the UK Government's Community Sponsorship programme. Partnership working with the local Quaker meeting to prepare a house for a community sponsorship family in the coming year. Ongoing support to the families CWR has helped to resettle in Canterbury, including help to find work and study opportunities. Support to access health services, including specialist appointments as required. In partnership with others, offering English teaching at various levels of competency. Weekly English conversation sessions for individuals or small groups, that enable learners to practice their English skills in a safe environment. Supporting young adults to achieve English and other GCSE levels that facilitate access to further and higher education and employment. Support young adults to apply for further and higher education. Support the Ladies Only Club for English learning, arts and crafts as well as life skills, such as first aid etc run by our partner organisation. Provide support and practical assistance to Ukrainian families hosted under the Homes for Ukraine scheme.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	CWR has sufficient funds to cover expenses of the second sponsored family, support the preparation of a house for a third community sponsorship family and the support of other resettled families. It has funds ringfenced to support the sponsorship of a third family in the coming year. Any surplus will be used to create and support partnership community projects, including the Welcome Café for English lessons and employment support as well as individual and family casework. CWR has built reserves and this will put the charity in a good position to support the increasing number of displaced people in the Canterbury area.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The charity builds up reserves as these are required for an application to the Home Office sponsor another refugee family. A minimum of £9,000 is required for Community Sponsorship of a refugee family. CWR holds sufficient reserves to cover the sponsored family's expenses, insurance payment and other liabilities. Reserves will be carried forward and used towards sponsorship of another refugee family, families and individuals in need and to work with partner organisations to run and develop community projects, including employability training and funding

		towards training to improve employability and English learning and further family fun days and creative projects aimed at improving mental health. Some reserves are also being carried forward to facilitate volunteer training.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£ 22,748.89
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Individual donations, including those made through the website. Donations by other organisations, towards the work of CWR. Fundraising events when required.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, governance and management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document: for example, trust deed , memorandum and articles of association etc	Para 1.25	CIO Foundation
How is the charity constituted? for example limited company , unincorporated association , CIO	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any	Para 1.25	Selected for skills set and subject to approval by Board of Trustees.

constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees		

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Safeguarding Policy and individual meeting of each new volunteer with the Designated Safeguarding Lead. Volunteer events including updates on safeguarding and other training. Online safeguarding training.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Refugee families are supported by the CWR board of trustees, active volunteers and a larger group of supporters, including financial donors. CWR works in partnership with Canterbury City Council and Canterbury Diocese' Social Justice Network as well as other groups who provide support for refugees and displaced people in the Canterbury area, such as Canterbury 4 Ukraine, Job Centre, Migrant Help and Kent Refugee Action Network (KRAN). CWR received advice and support from RESET, an organisation funded to support Community Sponsorship groups.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and administrative details

Charity name	Canterbury Welcomes Refugees
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1181225
Charity's principal address	Withheld

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Dr C Powell	Lead Sponsor		Board of Trustees
2	S Powell	Project Lead		Board of Trustees
3	N Watson-Cutts	Chair of Trustees, Designated Safeguarding Lead		Board of Trustees

4	D Pecoraro	Welfare Lead		Board of Trustees
5	Hilary Adams	Treasurer		Board of Trustees
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20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name	

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

The Charity's principal address is withheld due to threats being received by those opposed to the work of Canterbury Welcomes Refugees. Police reference number available.

Other optional information

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Declarations

The company has taken advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the report above.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report (including directors' report) above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees/directors

Signature(s)	C D Powell	
Full name(s)	Dr C D Powell	
Position (for example Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee	
Date	28.5.25	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
CANTERBURY WELCOMES REFUGEES

No (if any)
1181225

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01-Apr-24	To	Period end date 31-Mar-25
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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	350	-	-	350	2,157
Grant	-	-	-	-	2,000
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	350	-	-	350	4,157
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	350	-	-	350	4,157
A3 Payments					
Family expenses	550	-	-	550	363
Insurance	274	-	-	274	271
Interpreters	229	-	-	229	-
DBS	19	-	-	19	10
Grant payments	-	1,549	-	1,549	461
IT	-	-	-	-	1,081
Event costs	151	-	-	151	615
Sub total	1,223	1,549	-	2,772	2,801
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	1,223	1,549	-	2,772	2,801
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 873	- 1,549	-	- 2,422	1,356
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	16,484	8,687	-	25,171	23,815
Cash funds this year end	15,611	7,138	-	22,749	25,171

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	Lloyds bank	15,611	7,138	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	15,611	7,138	-
	(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)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
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	
		C Powell		