

SUTTON AFRICAN & CARIBBEAN CULTURAL ORGANISATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1182079

Details

Other names SACCO

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-02-18

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 21 Alexandra Gardens
Stanley Road
Carshalton
SM5 4LJ

Phone 02033029543

Email info@sacco.org.uk

Website sacco.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 1. TO DEVELOP THE CAPACITY AND SKILLS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF SUTTON, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY MEMBERS OF THE AFRICAN AND CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY ARE BETTER ABLE TO IDENTIFY, AND HELP MEET, THEIR NEEDS AND TO PARTICIPATE MORE FULLY IN SOCIETY.2. TO PROVIDE OR ASSIST IN THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABILITY, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE.

Activities: Organising and promoting activities and events for the advancement, education and entertainment of residents of Sutton and surrounding areas, especially those of Afro-Caribbean heritage.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Croydon
- Merton
- Sutton

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£20,646	£38,958	-	-
2024-03-31	£63,848	£76,993	-	-
2023-03-31	£65,808	£35,298	-	-
2022-03-31	£49,426	£41,726	-	-
2021-03-31	£34,519	£27,089	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Cleo Douglas	Chair	2019-05-16
Allan Buchanan		2026-01-27
Grace Abamba		2021-11-11

SUTTON AFRICAN & CARIBBEAN CULTURAL ORGANISATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1182079

Accounts

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural

Organisation

Receipts and Payments Accounts

31 March 2025

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Reference and administrative details

Charity number 1182079

Registered Address and Operational Address

21 Alexander Gardens
Stanley Road
Carshalton
Surrey
SM5 4LJ

Bank

Metro Bank
83 - 87 High Street
Sutton
SM1 1JF

Trustees

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Cleo Douglas - Chair from February 2021. Appointed May 2019
Grace Abamba – Appointed November 2021
Annisha Taylor – Appointed November 2021
Gerald Samuel – Appointed September 2023. Resigned April 2025

Grace Smith - Honorary Treasurer November 2021

Independent Examiner

678 Consult Limited
Chartered Accountants
100 Lincoln Road
Erith, Kent
DA8 2DT

Reference and administrative information set out on page 2 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and constitution.

**Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2025**

GOVERNANCE AND STRUCTURE

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation (SACCO)

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation (SACCO) is a charitable organisation established in 2019, formerly known as Sutton Black History Group. Operating as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), SACCO is guided by a constitution and dedicated to celebrating African and Caribbean heritage while supporting community well-being.

Core Activities and Initiatives

1. Educational Activities

SACCO delivers educational programs and activities designed to raise awareness and promote understanding of African and Caribbean heritage. These include workshops, lectures, and other informative events.

2. Cultural Events

SACCO organises vibrant cultural events, including festivals, performances, and exhibitions, that celebrate the rich traditions and heritage of African and Caribbean communities.

3. Group Meetings

The organisation facilitates group meetings that foster community connections. These gatherings serve as forums for discussion, support groups, and planning sessions for various community projects.

4. Focus on Children and Young People

SACCO engages young people through programs and activities that promote cultural awareness and encourage active participation in community initiatives.

5. Addressing Older People's Social Isolation

SACCO recognises and addresses social isolation among seniors by organising events and activities that help them connect with peers and the wider community.

6. Culturally Appropriate Activities

The organisation offers activities designed to resonate with African and Caribbean communities, ensuring inclusivity and cultural relevance.

7. Addressing Health Disadvantages

SACCO is committed to addressing health disparities affecting African and Caribbean communities. This includes providing health education, advocacy, and support to improve community well-being.

Mission and Commitment

SACCO is dedicated to celebrating and promoting African and Caribbean heritage while addressing social challenges and fostering community cohesion. Through its diverse activities and initiatives, SACCO aims to enhance education, cultural appreciation, and the overall quality of life for its members.

**Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2025**

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

SACCO's charitable objectives are centred around community development, social welfare, elimination of discrimination, and promoting inclusivity. The organisation confirms compliance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Friday 21st March 2025 to reflect on 2024.

Key Projects and Activities:

1. Community Programs

- **Friendship Friday:** Regular social gatherings for the over-50s to reduce isolation and foster connections.
- **Allotment Project:** Encouraging sustainable living and mental well-being through gardening which also allowed us to tackle seniors being isolated and lonely fostering a great sense of community and forging new friendships.

2. Celebrations and Events

- **Africa Day** – celebrated in May with a cultural day of activities
- **Windrush Black Owned Businesses BOB:** A vibrant, intergenerational event celebrating the contributions of the Windrush generation.
- **Black History Month Events:** A series of activities honouring African and Caribbean heritage.

3. Outreach and Partnerships

- **Kaleidoscope Magazine:** Increased readership through print and digital editions, receiving positive feedback.
- **Collaborations:** Worked with Sutton Housing Partnership, Community Action Sutton, Place at the Table, ASKI and the NHS to strengthen community impact.

4. Digital Presence

- Active engagement on social media platforms to broaden outreach and connect with the community.

Summary:

SACCO's accomplishments in 2024–2025 reflect its dedication to empowering the community through education, health, culture, and social support. By setting clear objectives and executing impactful projects, SACCO continues to foster equality, diversity, inclusivity, resilience, and well-being within the Sutton African and Caribbean community.

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

- **Patron**



Patrick Hutchinson continues to serve as our Patron, providing unwavering support to the group. He has attended numerous events on behalf of SACCO and has attended our Friendship Friday sessions, where he takes the time to meet and connect with our elders. His presence and engagement are greatly appreciated and add a special touch to our gatherings.

Achievements and Performance

Friendship Friday (FF)



Friendship Fridays were generally well attended. The programme for the year was mainly based around education and community groups were invited to address our members and let them know what they were about. There are presentations at each event and were well received. We also had a change in catering provision which allowed the group to be introduced to a local establishment which some of our members have used for external events and takeaway services. There was a successful joint summer outing with retired

Unison members having a lovely day at Petworth House and Park. Also as part of the British Science Week – there was a session based on “Connections” held in March 2025.

CULTURAL EVENTS

Throughout the year SACCO holds a number of cultural events celebrating and highlighting our heritage.

- **Africa May 2024**
The day had a number of activities including– African Drumming, African dance workshop and a real life story of enslavement and emancipation through African story telling.
- **Windrush Day 2024 – Black Owned Business**
The 2024 Windrush BOB event has now become a new regular event in our calendar and is well attended by a dozen stalls and frequented by the passing trade in the shopping centre. It is a good day for a little fundraising, Music and camaraderie for our community.
- **Black History Month October 2024**
The theme for Black History Month 2024 was Reclaiming Narratives . SACCO hosted a variety of events throughout the month, designed to engage and educate all age groups.

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

BLACK 2024 HISTORY MONTH RECLAIMING NARRATIVES

SACCO

FRIENDSHIP FRIDAY OCT 04 £18
Sutton Lodge, 2.30-5.30pm (£7)

BHM LAUNCH OCT 05
Sutton Library, 2-4pm (free entry)

EMPOWERING YOUNG VOICES OCT 09
Sutton High School, 10am-1pm (Invitation event)

SONGS FOR MY FATHER OCT 11
by Brian Samuel
Sutton College, 2-3pm (free entry)

POETRY EVENING OCT 17
Throwley Yard Cinema, 7-9pm (free entry)

PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE COMMUNITY OCT 20
Carshalton Beeches Baptist Church, 12-3pm (£3 donation)

BHM FINALE NOV 02
Sutton Cricket Club, 7-10pm (£6 tickets)

FRIENDSHIP FRIDAY NOV 08 £22
Sutton Lodge, 2.30-5.30pm (£7)

BLACK MAN LISTEN NOV 09
by Kathy McClean
Sutton Library, 2.30-4.30pm (free entry)

Kaleidoscope Magazine

Kaleidoscope - the magazine was produced three times in 2024 and achieved increased readership through its distribution in both digital and hard copy formats. The magazine has received numerous positive comments, with readers praising both its content and layout, highlighting its growing popularity and impact.

Articles include information on SACCO projects, the Allotment, Pickleball, Friendship Friday and relevant topics e.g. Wellbeing- dementia, crossword puzzles and tons more.

SACCO Allotments



In May 2023 SACCO became the proud tenants of an allotment after months of hard work clearing it. So in 2024 began our quest to grow food for our members by our members. The idea was well received by all our team as it slowly got off the ground. By April we had a core team of volunteers who would regularly turn up and tend to our field of dreams. The modest harvest for the year was shared with members and friends as well as being consumed at several

Friendship Friday Events.

The greatest thing was that we managed to grow Callaloo and Cho-Cho vegetables our elders recognise and enjoyed in addition to the normal allotment staples. Also it was incredible that week in and week out some of the members enjoyed the weather, the company and the hard work involved in keeping this project going.

**Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2025**

A thank you also needs to go out to our local Garden centre DOBBIES of Wallington who managed to support us with a grant for equipment, seeds, and helped up by providing 5 staff to close down our allotment for the winter.

Partnership

We started being involved in talks to partner with other Global majority groups which we hope will be the start of some really exciting projects. We are part of “ Place at My Table”
<https://www.placeatmytable.co.uk> partnership in Sutton with other Sutton organisations and looking to complete joint funding applications.

Be Well

We were approached by Citizens UK to get involved in a new way of working call community organising, so after an initial training we became a be well hub and we had further training on their emerging leaders course after which we became eligible for their funding grants. We applied for two and managed to be successful in obtaining both.

Organisational Development and Future Planning

SACCO relies on a committed team of volunteers who play a crucial role in delivering events and initiatives. To ensure continued growth and sustainability, the organisation:

- Volunteer Support: Identifies and supports volunteers, encouraging them to take on governance roles or explore career aspirations.
- Trustee Training: Provides training for new Trustees to enhance governance capabilities and familiarise them with SACCO's internal IT systems.

Risk Management

The board of Trustees actively identifies and mitigates risks to safeguard SACCO's operations. Key initiatives include:

- Governance and Finance Risks: Addressed by recruiting Trustees with diverse expertise, including financial professionals.
- Process Reviews: Regular assessments of risk management processes, with ongoing monitoring to ensure organizational resilience.

Finance

For the year ended 31st March 2025 incoming resources were £20,646 (2024: £63,848) and resources expended were £ 38,958, (2024: £76,993), resulting in a deficit for the year of £18,312 (2024: £13,145). The deficit was the result of spending funds brought forward from 2023/24.

Total funds at 31st March 2025 were £20,728 (2024: £39,040), of which £8,556 is held in restricted funds with £12,172 in unrestricted reserves. These unrestricted reserves represent just over 4 months running costs of the charity and are increasing slightly year on year. The percentage increase in unrestricted reserves is due to the decreased costs of the charity over the last year, more donations and fundraising and a reduction in grants.

We obtained a number of small grants in 2025, the majority were project specific and restricted grants. We have used funding from 2023/24 to maintain the activities of SACCO in 2024/2025.

**Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2025**

We received grants from the following funders in 2024/25. This increased funding allowed us to provide a variety of projects relating to inclusion, inequalities and supporting the cost of living crisis over the last year. We want to thank our funders:-

- British Science Association -Science Week
- London Borough of Sutton Neighbourhood Fund - Black History Month
- Community Action Sutton – Allotment development and Food Poverty
- Citizens UK – Emerging Leaders and Wellbeing Grants
- NHS Winter Project - at Friendship Friday

We are also very appreciative the support from Sutton Housing Partnership, Place at My Table, and ASKI who we work closely with over the last year. We have developed closer partnership working over the year.

We are very thankful for the donations we have received from the local Rotary Club from the Christmas activities in the London Borough of Sutton and to be supported by Dobbies Garden Centre for the year including volunteers and gardening materials.

We thank all for their generosity – local churches, and local shops – Morrisons, Sainsbury, Tesco and private individuals who gave us fresh produce from the allotments.

The funding, allows for the employment of a part-time project lead and project manager while maintaining part-time administrative support.

Reserves Policy

SACCO reserves policy is to have between 3 to 4 months running costs, this ranges from £9,740 and £12,985. The current reserves are £12,172 which is within the policy.

Re-appointment of Independent Examiner

SACCO has re-appointed 678 Consult Limited as independent examiner and they have agreed to continue in that capacity.

Future Work

SACCO is focused on:

1. Expanding Friendship Friday: Growing this popular program to reduce social isolation among seniors.
2. Engaging in Partnerships: Participating in initiatives related to mixed heritage, succession planning, and training to ensure the organisation's sustainability and relevance.

Summary

By prioritising organisational development, risk management, and future planning, SACCO is building a strong foundation for continued success. These efforts aim to enhance governance, expand community impact, and secure SACCO's long-term growth and sustainability.

Approved 27th January 2026 and signed on behalf of Trustees by

Cleo Douglas

Cleo Douglas - Chair

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation for the year ended 31 March 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 10 and 11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the trustees of the charity, 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 charity'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act;
- or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



Date: 27th January 2026

Ruth Kenekueyero
Member of the ICAEW
For and on behalf of:
678 Consult Limited
Chartered Accountants
100 Lincoln Road
Erith
DA8 2DT

Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31st March 2025

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS					
Year ended 31st March 2025				2025	2024
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total		Total
INCOME	£	£	£		£
Donations		2,829	2,829		2,703
Grants	12,084		12,084		56,886
Fundraising/Sales/Other		4,849	4,849		3,714
Membership Fees		884	884		545
Total Income	12,084	8,562	20,646		63,848
EXPENDITURE					
Fundraising		180	180		180
Trustee Expenses		24	24		-
Charitable Activities Costs	29,193		29,193		68,295
Administration	512	1,535	2,046		2,436
Telephone and Internet	604	2,982	3,586		986
Office costs	474	1,423	1,897		2,677
Training	360		360		-
Insurance		508	508		313
Accounts & Independent Examination		1,164	1,164		1,648
Purchase of Equipment			-		456
Total Expenditure	31,143	7,815	38,958		76,993
Net Receipts	-19,059	747	-18,312		-13,145
Cash funds at 1 April 2024	27,615	11,425	39,040		52,185
Cash funds at 31 March 2025	8,556	12,172	20,728		39,040

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

<u>Statement of assets and liabilities</u>					
<u>Year ended 31st March 2024</u>					
			2025	2024	
			Total	Total	
Cash Funds			£	£	
Cash at bank and in hand			20,728	39,040	
Cash funds					
Restricted funds			8,556	27,615	
Unrestricted General Funds			12,172	11,425	
Total Cash Funds			20,728	39,040	

Approved 27th January 2026 and signed on behalf of Trustees by

Cleo Douglas

Cleo Douglas - Chair

SUTTON AFRICAN & CARIBBEAN CULTURAL ORGANISATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1182079

Accounts

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural

Organisation

Receipts and Payments Accounts

31 March 2024

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation
Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2024

Reference and administrative details

Charity number 1182079

Registered Address and Operational Address

21 Alexander Gardens
Stanley Road
Carshalton
Surrey
SM5 4LJ

Bank

Metro Bank
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Sutton
SM1 1JF

Trustees

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Cleo Douglas - Chair from February 2021 Appointed May 2019
Grace Abamba – Appointed November 2021
Annisha Taylor – Appointed November 2021
Gerald Samuel – Appointed September 2023
Veronica Fritzon -retired September 2023

Grace Smith - Honorary Treasurer November 2021

Independent Examiner

678 Consult Limited
Chartered Accountants
100 Lincoln Road
Erith, Kent
DA8 2DT

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation
Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2024

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Mission and Commitment

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Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation
Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2024

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

SACCO's charitable objectives are centred around community development, social welfare, elimination of discrimination, and promoting inclusivity. The organisation confirms compliance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

SACCO Objectives and Achievements for 2023–2024

Objectives for 2023–2024:

SACCO set ambitious goals for the year, focusing on:

1. **Improving Governance** – Strengthening organizational structure and processes.
2. **Raising Awareness** – Promoting SACCO's mission and activities to a wider audience.
3. **Recruiting New Expertise** – Bringing in skilled individuals to enhance project delivery.
4. **Enhancing Communication** – Streamlining internal and external communication channels.
5. **Applying for Core Funding** – Securing financial resources to sustain operations.
6. **Supporting Those Affected by COVID-19** – Continuing to aid recovery efforts.
7. **Addressing the Cost-of-Living Crisis** – Providing targeted support to the community.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on 19th April 2024 to reflect on 2023

Awards

SACCO Wins Sutton Community Award for Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion



SACCO was honoured to be nominated for the Sutton Community Awards in the category of Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion. We are incredibly proud to have won this prestigious award, which stands as a testament to the hard work and dedication SACCO commits to fostering inclusivity and supporting the community. This recognition reflects our ongoing efforts to celebrate diversity and promote equality across Sutton.

Key Projects and Activities:

1. Community Programs

- **Friendship Friday:** Regular social gatherings for the over-50s to reduce isolation and foster connections.
- **Building Resilience (Merton Giving Fund):** Initiatives aimed at enhancing community well-being. Offering physical activities tailored for senior citizens to promote fitness and social interaction in collaboration with SUB3 Fitness
- **Pickleball Introduction:** Promoting health and activity through this emerging sport.
- **Allotment Project:** Encouraging sustainable living and mental well-being through gardening which also allowed us to tackle seniors being isolated and lonely fostering a great sense of community and forging new friendships.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation
Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2024

2. Celebrations and Events

- **Windrush Family Fun Day:** A vibrant, intergenerational event celebrating the contributions of the Windrush generation.
- **Black History Month Events:** A series of activities honouring African and Caribbean heritage.

3. Outreach and Partnerships

- **Wellbeing Food Boxes:** Continued distribution to support community health.
- **Kaleidoscope Magazine:** Increased readership through print and digital editions, receiving positive feedback.
- **Collaborations:** Worked with Sutton Housing Partnership, Royal Society of Arts, Community Action Sutton, Place at the Table, ASKI and the NHS to strengthen community impact.

4. Digital Presence

- Active engagement on social media platforms to broaden outreach and connect with the community.

Summary:

SACCO's accomplishments in 2023–2024 reflect its dedication to empowering the community through education, health, culture, and social support. By setting clear objectives and executing impactful projects, SACCO continues to foster equality, diversity, inclusivity, resilience, and well-being within the Sutton African and Caribbean community.

Achievements and Performance

• **Friendship Friday**



The group has continued to grow, primarily due to the efforts of our dedicated, paid project manager. Meetings are held biweekly, with each session featuring a variety of topics, activities, and trips carefully arranged by the project manager to keep the experience fresh and enjoyable. These gatherings also address the issue of isolation among our elders, providing them with opportunities to socialize, participate in engaging activities, and share a hot meal—often of African Caribbean origin—that fosters a sense of

community and belonging.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation
Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2024

- **Patron**



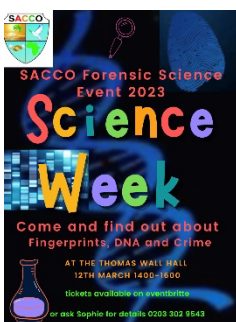
Patrick Hutchinson continues to serve as our Patron, providing unwavering support to the group. He has attended numerous events on behalf of SACCO and has attended our Friendship Friday sessions, where he takes the time to meet and connect with our elders. His presence and engagement are greatly appreciated and add a special touch to our gatherings.

- **Building Resilience - Merton Giving Fund**



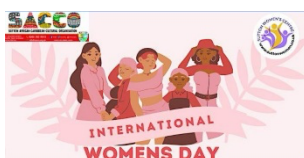
SACCO delivered a program of mixed-ability chair exercise classes in collaboration with SUB3 Fitness. The sessions were held in person and were designed to promote physical health, social interaction, and a sense of community among seniors in Merton. The classes were well-attended, providing participants with an opportunity to meet new people, stay active, and enjoy an outing. Recognising the continued demand for such initiatives, SACCO aims to deliver similar classes in the future to support the well-being of the local senior community

- **British Science Week – Forensic Science Workshop**



As part of British Science Week, SACCO hosted an engaging forensic science workshop. Participants explored the fascinating world of fingerprints, DNA, and crime investigation. The hands-on session allowed attendees to collect fingerprint and DNA samples, gaining insight into their critical roles in criminal detection and ancestry tracing. The workshop provided an educational and interactive experience, sparking interest in forensic science and its real-world applications.

- **International Womens Day Celebration**



SACCO partnered with Sutton Women's Centre to host an inspiring and vibrant event in honour of International Women's Day. Members of the community gathered to celebrate the achievements and contributions of women everywhere in a supportive and joyous atmosphere. The evening featured a captivating performance by a Steel Drum Band, adding a lively and cultural touch to the festivities. The celebration was a memorable tribute to women, their accomplishments, and their impact, reflecting SACCO's commitment to inclusivity, empowerment, and community building.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation
Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2024

- **Support for Sutton Inequalities Initiatives**



SACCO has actively supported the London Borough of Sutton's inequalities initiatives by contributing to food hubs and new food pantries across local housing estates, including Roundshaw, Benhill, St. Helier, and Shanklin. To meet the diverse needs of the community, culturally appropriate dry food items have been added to the pantries, particularly catering to African and Caribbean families. This initiative underscores SACCO's commitment to fostering inclusivity and addressing food insecurity in the local area.



Self-Management UK and SACCO collaborated to support mental well-being within the community. Volunteers from the community were trained to become self-management course tutors for those with mental ill health in the black and BAME community within Sutton once trained they went on to deliver 4 self-management courses. This

initiative provided a safe and inclusive environment where individuals could connect with others and gain valuable tools for navigating life's challenges to support those attending to build their knowledge, skills and confidence in managing their mental ill-health.

This partnership reflects SACCO's dedication to holistic well-being, empowering individuals to take charge of their mental health while fostering community support and resilience.

- **Windrush Day 2023 – 75th Anniversary Celebrations**



To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Empire Windrush's arrival in the UK, SACCO hosted a series of community events in Sutton from June 22nd to 24th, celebrating the contributions and achievements of the Windrush generation and their descendants.

1. **June 22nd – Black-Owned Business Market**

The St. Nicholas Centre in Sutton Shopping Centre became a hub for African and Caribbean businesses, providing a platform to showcase and sell their goods. This all-day market highlighted the entrepreneurial spirit and cultural richness of the community.

2. **June 23rd – Friendship Friday Group Celebration**

A special event for the over-50s featured storytelling, games, and traditional food. It provided a space for members of the Windrush generation to reminisce, share their stories, and celebrate their contributions, particularly in healthcare and community building.

3. **June 24th – Free Community Event**

The celebrations concluded with a vibrant intergenerational day that included a dominoes tournament, bouncy castle, and insightful talks about the Windrush experience. This event brought together people of all ages to honour the legacy and heritage of the Windrush generation.

The three-day celebration was a resounding success, fostering community spirit, cultural pride, and intergenerational understanding.

- **Black History Month**



The theme for Black History Month 2023 was “Before Windrush,” marking the 75th anniversary of the Empire Windrush’s arrival in the UK. SACCO hosted a variety of events throughout the month, designed to engage and educate all age groups. The initiative was a resounding success, with all events fully booked and receiving widespread acclaim for their relevance and impact.

- **Wellbeing Food Boxes**



SACCO has continued its efforts to support community well-being by providing food boxes and distributing non-perishable food items. These contributions have been crucial in supplying Sutton Housing Partnership estates' food hubs, ensuring that residents have access to essential resources. This ongoing initiative reflects SACCO's commitment to addressing food security and supporting local communities

- **Kaleidoscope Magazine**



Kaleidoscope Magazine has achieved increased readership through its distribution in both digital and hard copy formats. The magazine has received numerous positive comments, with readers praising both its content and layout, highlighting its growing popularity and impact.

- **Allotment**



The Allotment: A New Venture for SACCO. The allotment project is a fresh initiative that offers participants the chance to connect with nature while developing practical skills and fostering social interactions. Participants quickly discovered that managing an allotment involves more than just planting seeds; it includes maintaining the ground and addressing daily challenges. Attendees have gained carpentry skills, transforming pallets

into raised beds and benches, demonstrating creativity and resourcefulness. The allotment has provided a space for members to converse, collaborate, and build meaningful connection. This initiative promotes teamwork and creates a sense of shared achievement as participants nurture their plants and improve the space. By combining education, skill-building, and community engagement, the allotment project highlights SACCO’s dedication to empowering its members while enhancing well-being and fostering sustainability. Fresh produce from the allotment has been distributed among members, encouraging healthy eating and showcasing the rewards of their hard work. The fruits of their labour were also enjoyed at a summer BBQ, bringing members together to celebrate their efforts and the success of the allotment.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation
Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2024

- **Pickleball**



Many participants were unfamiliar with pickleball prior to attending SACCO's sessions. The program has been instrumental in raising awareness and sparking interest in the sport. Attendance numbers have steadily increased, reflecting the community's enthusiasm and demand for the activity. Due to its popularity, SACCO now delivers pickleball sessions at two different locations, ensuring broader access and convenience for participants. This initiative underscores SACCO's commitment to promoting physical well-being and introducing innovative activities that foster community engagement and healthy lifestyles.

Organisational Development and Future Planning

SACCO relies on a committed team of volunteers who play a crucial role in delivering events and initiatives. To ensure continued growth and sustainability, the organisation:

- **Volunteer Support:** Identifies and supports volunteers, encouraging them to take on governance roles or explore career aspirations.
- **Trustee Training:** Provides training for new Trustees to enhance governance capabilities and familiarise them with SACCO's internal IT systems.

Risk Management

The board of Trustees actively identifies and mitigates risks to safeguard SACCO's operations. Key initiatives include:

- **Governance and Finance Risks:** Addressed by recruiting Trustees with diverse expertise, including financial professionals.
- **Process Reviews:** Regular assessments of risk management processes, with ongoing monitoring to ensure organizational resilience.

Finance

For the year ended 31st March 2024 incoming resources were £63,848 (2023: £65,808) and resources expended were £76,993,(2023: £35,298), resulting in a deficit for the year of £13,145 (2023: £30,510). The deficit was the result of spending restricted funds brought forward from 2022/23.

Total funds at 31st March 2024 were £39,040 (2023: £52,185), of which £27,615 is held in restricted funds with £11,425 in unrestricted reserves. These unrestricted reserves represent just over 2 months running costs of the charity and are increasing slightly year on year.

We obtained a number of grants, the majority were project specific and restricted grants. We were successful in gaining funding during the year from London Community Fund to support the cost of living crisis and National Lottery to celebrate 75 years of Windrush.

We received grants from the following funders in 2023/24. This increased funding allowed us to provide a variety of projects relating to inclusion, inequalities and supporting the cost of living crisis over the last year. We want to thank our funders:-

- London Community Foundation to support Cost of Living Crisis

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation
Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2024

- British Science Association - Science Week
- London Borough of Sutton Neighbourhood Fund - Black History Month
- Community Action Sutton
- National Lottery 75th Windrush Celebrations
- Spotted England – Pickle Ball
- Postcode Lottery – Friendship Friday

We are also very appreciative the support from Sutton Housing Partnership, Place at The Table, and ASKI who we work closely with over the last year and donations we have received. We thank all for their generosity –two local churches, and local shops – Morrisons, Sainsbury, Tesco and private individuals who gave us fresh produce from the allotments.

The increase in funding, allows for the employment of a part-time project lead and project manager while maintaining part-time administrative support.

Future Work

SACCO is focused on:

1. Preparing for Accreditation: Enhancing standards and achieving formal recognition for its operations.
2. Expanding Friendship Friday: Growing this popular program to reduce social isolation among seniors.
3. Engaging in Partnerships and Conferences: Participating in initiatives related to mixed heritage, succession planning, and training to ensure the organisation's sustainability and relevance.

Summary

By prioritising organisational development, risk management, and future planning, SACCO is building a strong foundation for continued success. These efforts aim to enhance governance, expand community impact, and secure SACCO's long-term growth and sustainability.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation
 Report of the Trustees
 For the year ended 31 March 2024

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

Year ended 31st March 2024

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2024	2023
	£	£	Total	Total
INCOME			£	£
Donations		2,703	2,703	1,535
Grants	56,886		56,886	59,184
Fundraising/Sales		3,714	3,714	5,004
Membership Fees		545	545	85
Total Income	56,886	6,962	63,848	65,808
EXPENDITURE				
Fundraising		180	180	250
Trustee Expenses			-	72
Charitable Activities Costs	68,296		68,296	24,954
Administration	2,436	-	2,436	4,722
Telephone and Internet	986		986	709
Office costs	2,678		2,678	2,370
Training			-	319
Insurance		313	313	277
Independent Examination	1,648		1,648	1,625
Purchase of Equipment		456	456	-
Total Expenditure	74,396	2,597	76,993	35,297
Net Receipts	(17,510)	4,365	(13,145)	30,511
Cash funds at 1 April 2023	45,125	7,060	52,185	21,675
Cash funds at 31 March 2024	27,615	11,425	39,040	52,185

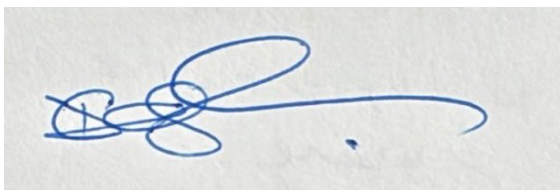
Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation
Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2024

Statement of assets and liabilities

Year ended 31st March 2024

	2024	2023
	Total	Total
	£	£
Cash Funds		
Cash at bank and in hand	39,040	52,185
Cash funds		
Restricted funds	27,615	45,125
Unrestricted General Funds	11,425	7,060
Total Cash Funds	39,040	52,185

Approved by the trustees on 30th January 2025 and signed on their behalf by

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Cleo Douglas', written on a light-colored surface.

Cleo Douglas - Chair

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation
Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2024

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation for the year ended 31 March 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 11 and 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the trustees of the charity, 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 charity'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:


(1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act;

or

(2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Date: 30th January 2025



Ruth Kenekueyero
Member of the ICAEW

For and on behalf of:

678 Consult Limited

Chartered accountants

100 Lincoln Road

Erith

DA8 2DT

SUTTON AFRICAN & CARIBBEAN CULTURAL ORGANISATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1182079

Accounts

Charity no. 1182079

**Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural
Organisation
Receipts and Payments Accounts
31 March 2023**

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and constitution.

GOVERNANCE AND STRUCTURE

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation (SACCO) is a charitable organisation with a mission to celebrate African and Caribbean heritage in the community. It was established in 2019 and was previously known as Sutton Black History Group. SACCO operates as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is governed by a constitution. The organisation focuses on a range of activities and initiatives to benefit the community, including:

- 1 **Educational Activities:** SACCO provides educational programs and activities aimed at raising awareness and promoting understanding of African and Caribbean heritage. This can include workshops, lectures, and other educational events.
- 2 **Cultural Events:** SACCO organizes cultural events that showcase and celebrate the rich cultural traditions and heritage of the African and Caribbean communities. These events may include festivals, performances and exhibitions.
- 3 **Group Meetings:** The organisation facilitates group meetings that bring the community together. These meetings may serve various purposes, such as discussion forums, support groups, or planning sessions for community.
- 4 **Focus on Children and Young People:** The organisation facilitates group meetings that bring the community together. These meetings may serve various purposes, such as discussion forums, support groups, or planning sessions for community projects.
- 5 **Addressing Older People's Social Isolation:** SACCO recognizes the issue of social isolation among older individuals and works to address it. This could involve organizing events or initiatives that help seniors connect with one another and the broader community.
- 6 **Culturally Appropriate Activities:** The organization aims to provide culturally appropriate activities that resonate with the African and Caribbean communities it serves. These activities are designed to be inclusive and reflective of heritage.
- 7 **Addressing Health Disadvantages:** SACCO is committed to tackling health disparities that are specific to the African and Caribbean community. This may involve health education, support, and advocacy to improve the health and well-being of community members.

In summary, SACCO is dedicated to promoting and celebrating the African and Caribbean heritage within the community, with a strong focus on education, cultural events, addressing social issues, and improving the overall well-being of its members.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

SACCO's charitable objectives are centered around community development, social welfare, elimination of discrimination, and promoting inclusivity. The organization confirms compliance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

SACCO Objectives

SACCO set various objectives for 2022-2023, including improving governance, raising awareness, recruiting new expertise, securing a Patron, enhancing communication, applying for core funding, continue to support those affected by Covid-19, and assisting the community dealing with the cost-of-living crisis.

Several projects were carried out during the year, including "The Good Old Days," "Friendship Friday," "Building Resilience - Merton Giving Fund," "Windrush Family Fun Day," and various events for Black History Month.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2023

SACCO also expanded its outreach by providing wellbeing food boxes, publishing Kaleidoscope Magazine, collaborating with Sutton Housing Partnership, Royal Society of Arts as well as maintaining our partnerships with Community Action Sutton and the NHS. Offering chair exercises for senior citizens, and actively engaging with social media platforms.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The Good Old Days



This project rolled over from 2022 into 2023. We started this project in Merton based around the experiences of older members of our local community who are happy to share with others their cultural traditions in the countries from which they originate. This project was targeted at local community-based groups, organisations, cultural societies and elderly persons from all sections of society. The stories were shared with the younger generation who also shared their love of music and current sounds with the older generation.

Friendship Friday

A very successful continuing growing project. We now have a paid project manager who manages all of the bi-weekly sessions. The attendees who are all elderly enjoy meeting up together and enjoy the different ranges of talks and activities provided as well as a hot meal. Feedback from these sessions have been extremely positive with members.

Patron



SACCO was proud to announce that Patrick Hutchinson has agreed to be SACCO's Patron for the next 3 years. Patrick is known for his humanitarian act during the Black Lives Matter protest where by he carried a racist protester in trouble, picked him up and carried him over his shoulder to safety.

Building Resilience - Merton Giving Fund



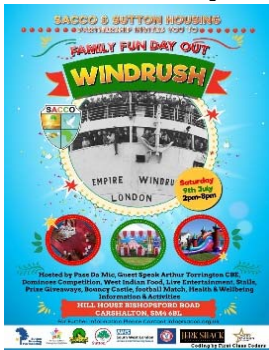
This project was for a regular mixed ability chair exercises in Merton over six months and we delivered the classes in person with SUB3 Fitness. The classes were very well attended and allowed seniors to meet new people and to also get out of the house. We have recognised that there is still a need to deliver these classes and hope to do so in the future.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Windrush Family Fun Day



SACCO worked in collaboration with Sutton Housing Partnership to host a family funday at Hill House. The day was very well attended and allowed us to raise awareness of the Windrush generation and also to engage with the community who had not been aware of SACCO previously. We put on activities for the children and elders, and distributed goodie bags containing information about SACCO, Sutton Housing Partnership and information regarding the Windrush compensation scheme.

Black History Month 2022



The Theme for BHM 2022 was “Time for Change: Action Not Words” SACCO presented various events throughout the month which catered for all age groups. The month was extremely successful with all events sold out. Below shows a snapshot of some of the events which took place over the course of the month.

Climate change Climate Change and our Global Wellbeing.

Understand the challenges for global wellbeing that climate change creates - both present and in the future. To learn about some positive examples of how these are being addressed. To understand what individuals can do to help tackle these issues.

Suicide Workshop

Facilitator used her personal family story to drive the session. A psychologist, she has published a book about the signs to look out for in people who may be contemplating this act.

Royal Society of Arts Workshop



SACCO worked in collaboration with the Royal Society of Arts South East Fellowship in bringing different art mediums to the community. These consisted of Tie Dye workshop, Pottery, Creative writing and a coffee morning event which allowed the community to record themselves and talk about their cultures.

Mental Health and Post-Covid in the Workplace by Monique Malwah

An essential Friendly Friday presentation. One highlight was that the sufferers in the lead for this are predominately Pakistani and Bangladeshi men.

Prostate Cancer

The session was delivered by a prostate cancer survivor, The aim of the workshop was to raise awareness within the Afro Caribbean community as 1:4 Black men suffer from this disease as opposed to 1:8 White men.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2023

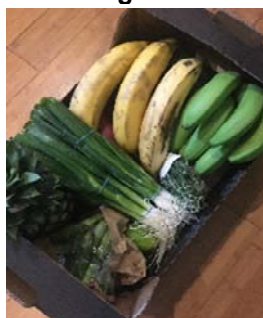
Meet the Young Author

SACCO hosted an event for our younger members who have written and published their own books. This event allowed the young authors exposure and to inspire any budding young writers to follow in their footsteps.

The Finale of Black History Month

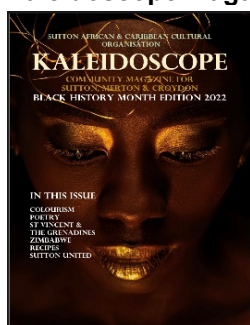
We finished off the month with a finale at Hill House. This was attended by guest speakers and entertainment.

Wellbeing Food Boxes



SACCO has been able to continue to provide wellbeing food boxes to the community as well as provide non-perishable food items to Sutton Housing Partnership estates food hubs.

Kaleidoscope Magazine



Increased readership and was sent out both digitally and hard copy. Many people have given several positive comments on both contents and layout.

Sutton High School

SACCO has continued to work with Sutton High School in offering support and information from an Afro-Caribbean perspective. SACCO was in attendance at their annual cultural day whereby SACCO gave a talk and allowed the children to have a freestyle Q&A session.

Social Media

We use various streams of social media in order to promote the work which we do. These range from Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Youtube. We have been able to monitor content to see what advertising streams work and also monitor the demographics which we are targeting.

Organisational Development

SACCO relies on volunteers who contribute to a wide range of roles and events. They aim to identify and support volunteers to take on governance roles or pursue career aspirations.

Training was provided to new Trustees to enhance governance skills and utilize SACCO's internal IT systems.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Risk Management

The board of Trustees identified and managed risks faced by the organization. Key areas of risk included governance and finance, which were addressed by recruiting new Trustees with diverse skills and financial professionals.

The organisation reviewed risk management processes and continues to monitor risks.

Future Work:

SACCO's future work includes preparing for Accreditation, continuing to grow Friendship Friday and engaging in various partnerships and conferences related to mixed heritage and succession planning and training.

Finance

For the year ended 31 March 2023 incoming resources were £65,808 (2022: £49,426) and resources expended were £35,298 (2022: £41,726), resulting in a surplus for the year of £30,510 (2022: £7,700). Total funds at 31 March 2023 were £52,185 (2022: £21,675), of which £45,124 is held in restricted funds with £7,061 in unrestricted reserves.

We obtained a number of grants, the majority were project specific and restricted grants. We were successful in gaining funding during the year from the NHS Inequalities Grant from Sutton NHS which started in January 2023 and completed in July 2023.

We received grants from the following funders. This increased funding allowed us to provide a variety of projects relating to inclusion, inequalities and supporting the cost of living crisis over the last year. We want to thank our funders:-

- Clarion Intergenerational Project;
- British Science Association Science Week;
- British Science Association - Antarctica Heritage;
- LBS Neighbourhood Fund - Black History Month;
- London Borough of Sutton - Covid Video;
- Ascent Fostering - Friendship Friday;
- Community Action Sutton - Micro grant;
- NHS Sutton Place - Inequalities Fund;
- Local Giving - Little Magic Grant - Kaleidoscope Magazine;
- Community Action Sutton - Windrush;
- Arts Network Sutton; and
- The Merton Giving Fund.

We are also very appreciative for donations we received. We thank all for their generosity – two local churches, and local shops – Morrisons, Sainsbury, Tesco and private individuals who gave us fresh produce from the allotments.

The increase in funding, allows for the employment of a part-time project lead and project manager while maintaining part-time administrative support.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Reserves

Our reserves policy calls for unrestricted reserves to be held in the range of 3-6 months operating expenditure which is £3,825 - £7,650, based on the 2023/24 budget. Our unrestricted reserves currently are £7,061, (2022: £5,190). We continue to be a going concern as we secure and apply for funding required to sustain and grow SACCO's activities in 2023/24.

Conclusion

The report provides a comprehensive overview of SACCO's activities and accomplishments during the specified period, showcasing its commitment to its charitable objectives and the betterment of the African and Caribbean community in Sutton and surrounding boroughs.

Independent examiners

Godfrey Wilson Limited were re-appointed as independent examiners to the charity during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 22 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by



Cleo Douglas - Chair

Independent examiner's report

To the trustees of

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 9 and 10.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the trustees of the charity 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 charity'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act;
or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

William Guy Blake

Date: 22 November 2023

William Guy Blake ACA

Member of the ICAEW

For and on behalf of:

Godfrey Wilson Limited

Chartered accountants and statutory auditors

5th Floor Mariner House

62 Prince Street

Bristol

BS1 4QD

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Receipts and payments account

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Receipts				
Grants	59,184	-	59,184	43,615
Fundraising events	-	5,004	5,004	2,451
Donations	-	1,535	1,535	3,218
Membership subscriptions	-	85	85	142
Total receipts	59,184	6,624	65,808	49,426
Payments				
Project costs	22,824	2,130	24,954	27,785
Admin expenses	3,288	1,434	4,722	6,350
Office costs	2,186	184	2,370	2,711
Legal and professional fees	1,219	406	1,625	1,423
Telephone and internet	709	-	709	632
Training	319	-	319	479
Insurance	-	277	277	-
Fundraising	-	250	250	246
Trustee expenses	-	72	72	36
Purchase of assets	-	-	-	2,064
Total payments	30,545	4,753	35,298	41,726
Net receipts	28,639	1,871	30,510	7,700
Cash funds at 1 April 2022	16,485	5,190	21,675	13,975
Cash funds at 31 March 2023	45,124	7,061	52,185	21,675

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Statement of assets and liabilities

As at 31 March 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash funds		
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>52,185</u>	<u>21,675</u>
Total cash funds	<u><u>52,185</u></u>	<u><u>21,675</u></u>
Cash funds		
Restricted funds	45,124	16,485
Unrestricted funds		
General funds	<u>7,061</u>	<u>5,190</u>
Total cash funds	<u><u>52,185</u></u>	<u><u>21,675</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on 22 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by



Cleo Douglas - Chair

SACCO

SUTTON
AFRICAN &
CARIBBEAN
CULTURAL
ORGANISATION

Formerly Sutton Black History Group



William Guy Blake ACA
Godfrey Wilson Limited
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
5th Floor Mariner House
62 Prince Street
Bristol
BS1 4QD

22 November 2023

Dear Guy

Letter of Representations on the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

We confirm that the following representations are made on the basis of enquiries of the trustees, management and staff with relevant knowledge and experience (and, where appropriate, of inspection of supporting documentation) sufficient to satisfy ourselves that we can properly make each of the following representations to you:

1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities as trustees, as set out in the terms of your engagement letter dated 7 January 2022, under the Charities Act 2011 for preparing financial statements, in accordance with applicable law.
2. We confirm that all accounting records have been made available to you for the purpose of your examination, in accordance with your terms of engagement, and that all the transactions undertaken by the charity have been properly reflected and recorded in the accounting records. All other records and related information, including minutes of all management, trustees' and members' meetings, have been made available to you. We have given you unrestricted access to persons within the charity in order to obtain evidence and have provided any additional information that you have requested for the purposes of your examination.
3. We confirm that all known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements have been disclosed to the independent examiner and accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.
4. We confirm that the charity has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance.

Email: info@sacco.org.uk; Tel: 02033029543
21 Alexandra Gardens, Stanley Road, Carshalton, SM5 4LJ
Registered Charity No.1182079 in England and Wales

SACCO

SUTTON
AFRICAN &
CARIBBEAN
CULTURAL
ORGANISATION

Formerly Sutton Black History Group



5. We confirm that we are not aware of any possible or actual instance of non-compliance with those laws and regulations which provide a legal framework within which the charity conducts its activities and which are central to the charity's ability to conduct its activities, except as explained to you and as disclosed in the financial statements.
6. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design and implementation of internal controls to prevent and detect fraud. We confirm that we have disclosed to you the results of our own risk assessment that the financial statements may be misstated as a result of fraud.
7. We confirm that there have been no actual or suspected instances of fraud involving trustees, management or employees who have a significant role in internal control or that could have a material effect on the financial statements. We also confirm that we are not aware of any allegations of fraud by former trustees, employees, regulators or others.
8. We confirm that, having considered our expectations and intentions for the next 12 months and the availability of unrestricted reserves, the charity is a going concern.
9. We confirm that all grants, donations and other income, including those subject to special terms or conditions or received for restricted purposes, have been notified to you. There have been no breaches of terms or conditions during the period regarding the application of such income.
10. We confirm that we are not aware of any matters of material significance that should be reported to the Charity Commission.
11. We confirm the following specific representations made to you during the course of the examination:
 - a) We confirm that both HSBC accounts were closed in May 2022, and that all transactions on these accounts for April to May 2022 have been appropriately recorded in the accounts.

Yours sincerely

Cleo Douglas

For and on behalf of the trustees of Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Email: info@sacco.org.uk; Tel: 02033029543

21 Alexandra Gardens, Stanley Road, Carshalton, SM5 4LJ

Registered Charity No.1182079 in England and Wales

SUTTON AFRICAN & CARIBBEAN CULTURAL ORGANISATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1182079

Accounts

Charity no. 1182079

**Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural
Organisation
Receipts and Payments Accounts
31 March 2022**

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Charity number	1182079														
Registered office and operational address	21 Alexander Gardens Stanley Road Carshalton Surrey SM5 4LJ														
Trustees	<p>The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:</p> <table><tr><td>Grace Abamba</td><td>Appointed 11 November 2021</td></tr><tr><td>Kardar Challenger</td><td>Resigned 21 September 2021</td></tr><tr><td>Cleo Douglas</td><td>Chair</td></tr><tr><td>Veronica Fritzon</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Mic Lord</td><td>Resigned 1 November 2021</td></tr><tr><td>Marina Pruce</td><td>Resigned 30 July 2021</td></tr><tr><td>Annisha Taylor</td><td>Appointed 11 November 2021</td></tr></table>	Grace Abamba	Appointed 11 November 2021	Kardar Challenger	Resigned 21 September 2021	Cleo Douglas	Chair	Veronica Fritzon		Mic Lord	Resigned 1 November 2021	Marina Pruce	Resigned 30 July 2021	Annisha Taylor	Appointed 11 November 2021
Grace Abamba	Appointed 11 November 2021														
Kardar Challenger	Resigned 21 September 2021														
Cleo Douglas	Chair														
Veronica Fritzon															
Mic Lord	Resigned 1 November 2021														
Marina Pruce	Resigned 30 July 2021														
Annisha Taylor	Appointed 11 November 2021														
Honorary Treasurer	Grace Smith Appointed November 2021														
Bankers	<p>HSBC Bank 75 – 77 High Street Sutton SM1 1DU</p> <p>Metro Bank 83 - 87 High Street Sutton SM1 1JF</p>														
Independent examiners	Godfrey Wilson Limited Chartered accountants and statutory auditors 5th Floor Mariner House 62 Prince Street Bristol BS1 4QD														

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and constitution.

Governance and structure

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation (SACCO), *Celebrating African and Caribbean Heritage in the Community*, became a charity in 2019. It was formerly Sutton Black History Group. We provide educational activities, cultural events and group meetings for all the community.

We concentrate on helping children and young people, raising expectations, older people social isolation and culturally appropriate activities, and we seek to address health disadvantages particular to the community.

SACCO is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its charity trustees and its governing document is a constitution.

There is a recruitment process for trustees, including an application process, interview and references. During 2021/22, two new trustees recruited, two trustees resigned, and a new Honorary Treasurer was appointed.

Our Annual General Meeting was held online in February 2022 due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and publication by Charity Commission "Charities and Public Benefit".

SACCO charitable activities are:

1. For the benefit of the public to develop the capacity and skills of the members of the Black African and Caribbean disadvantaged community of LB Sutton and the surrounding area in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society;
2. To provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their social circumstances, with the object of improving their conditions of life; and
3. For the benefit of the public, SACCO will work towards the elimination of discrimination on the grounds of race or ethnicity.

In fulfilment of its charitable objectives, as trustees we continually seek to include feedback from those who use our services, funders and both members, volunteers and staff.

We have established and maintained good relationships with other stakeholders, colleges, local hospitals, BME groups, some churches and business; our success in this is reflected in increased awareness of our group and more people wanting to work in partnership with us.

SACCO delivered a wide range of projects throughout the year.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Objectives for 2021-22

Work has continued to improve governance structures of a newly formed charitable organisation.

Our objectives:

- To maintain continuity of service despite the restrictions of Covid-19 by doing more online;
- To allow consolidation of structural changes and maintain stability;
- To recruit fresh expertise to the board of trustees in order to widen scope;
- To improve communications; and
- To apply for core funding in order to enhance the administrative support available to meet service demands.

The continued impact from Covid-19 and changing government guidelines created significant changes and adaptation to our working practices, but commitment from group members and volunteers allowed us to deliver outcomes and achieve our goals.

Achievements and performance

Projects continuing during 2021/22:

- African Village joint project with Community Action Sutton

This was a collaborative effort with SACCO taking the lead and bringing everyone together to celebrate the lockdown being over and the community being able to mix with each other for the first time since the Covid-19 pandemic had started. We recognised that for some people this would be the first opportunity they have had with other people since the pandemic had begun.

The event was held at Hill House which allowed us to spread each activity and the stalls out so it still allowed people to abide by social distancing if they so wished. We also provide PPE and sanitation points to allow people to feel at ease.



- Attendance at Merton Heritage Festival
- Kaleidoscope Magazine

Increased readership and was sent out both digitally and hard copy. Many people have given several positive comments on both contents and layout.

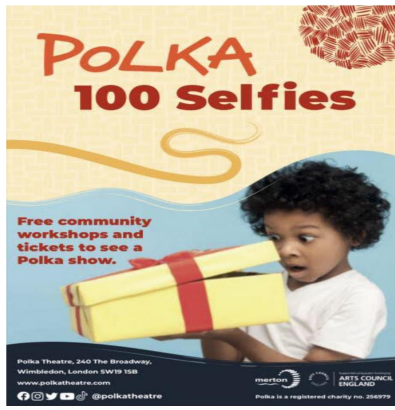
Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2022

- Polka Theatre 100 selfies

History In the Making - A Creative Project



- Wellbeing food boxes to Sutton residents



- SACCO's JG Building Vaccine Confidence With African & Caribbean Communities https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2MS4_DhEzno
- SACCO's JG Building Vaccine Confidence with Under 16's <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0UfZS8wtJrw>
- Growing up Stories - Whitehall Sutton

Black History Month - October 2021

The Theme for BHM 2021 was Proud to Be. SACCO presented various events throughout the month which catered for all age groups from the very young to our Silver Surfers. Overall the month was extremely successful with all events sold out and many requests for repeats or continuation of workshops.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Below shows a snapshot of some of the events which took place over the course of the month.

- Launch

The launch was well attended. Our special guests included the renowned poet and lawyer David Neita along with the Mayor Councillor Trish Fivey and her Deputy Councillor Annie Moral. We had various streams of entertainment for the evening which covered all ages.



- Windrush Compensation Support Legal Clinic

SACCO collaborated with United Legal Access who ran information sessions for those individuals who may have to prove their immigration status and for those wishing to make an application to the Windrush Compensation Scheme.



- Grief & Loss During the Pandemic workshop

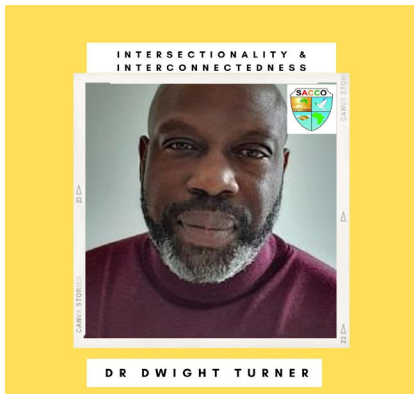


Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

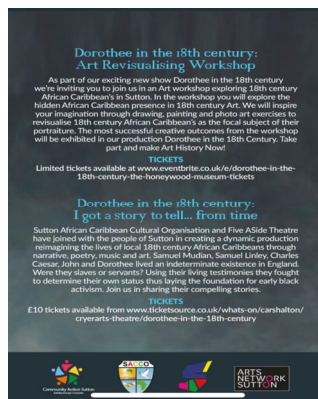
For the year ended 31 March 2022

- Intersectionality & Interconnectedness workshop



- Dorothee in the 18th Century Project

This was a collaboration with Five ASide Theatre. There were a number of workshops throughout the year which helped to bring people from 18th Century Sutton back to life. This culminated in a showing at The Charles Cryer theatre which was sold out.



- Meet the Author - Dorothee Kosoom
- Salsa workshops
- 6 Religions
- Knife crime and suicide
- Hate crime

Our children and young person's events

Activities and services for children and young persons are keen to highlight the contributions of people of African & Caribbean descent in Science, Technology, Engineering Arts & Maths and to promote diversity and inclusion in (STEAM). This was done through the following projects:

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2022

- Anansi Spider Storytelling



- Clarion Summer of Fun - Minibeast Mayhem



- Sutton High School

Due to the untimely death of George Floyd, several young ladies from Sutton High School reached out to SACCO as they felt they needed a forum to express their views and to also learn more about their heritage. SACCO encouraged the young ladies to join SACCO and become committee members. They have become invaluable members of the team. Sutton High School chose SACCO as one of their yearly charities which they support. They have held cultural days at school and have fundraised and donated funds to SACCO. We refer to our young people as SACCO's Young Voices as we feel that it is very important that they have a voice and they know that they will be listened to and heard.



Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2022

- Children's African Drumming Workshops in Merton and Sutton Libraries



- Unicorn Theatre Workshop - Tropical Christmas



- African Kings and Queens Storytelling



Our family and community learning workshops are a multi-generational, hands-on family engagement, designed to help children and their grown ups to learn and positively experience science and technology. We do this with the principles of creativity, culture and community.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2022

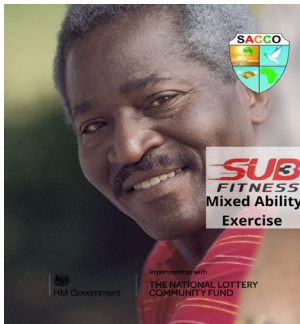
Silver surfers

- Friendship Fridays



- Senior citizens mixed ability chair exercises

During lockdown our elderly members expressed how they were feeling isolated as they were unable to leave their homes. We teamed up with SUB3 Fitness to deliver online mixed ability exercises. These sessions were extremely successful. The sessions covered exercises for both able and non-able individuals by offering classes that were chair led for the infirmed. Due to popular demand and different streams of funding we were able to run these sessions for most of the year.



- Good Old Days

We started this project in Merton based around the experiences of older members of our local community who are happy to share with others their cultural traditions in the countries from which they originate. This project is targeted at local community-based groups, organisations, cultural societies and elderly persons from all sections of society.

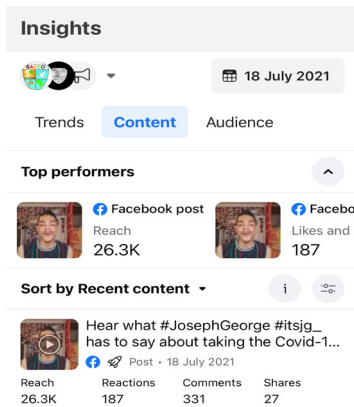
Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Social media

We use various streams of social media in order to promote the work which we do. These range from Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Youtube. We have been able to monitor content to see what advertising streams work and also monitor the demographics which we are targeting.



Organisational development

The operational role was extremely busy - we are very thankful for our volunteers who give of their time freely and support SACCO in a range of roles and events throughout the year. SACCO has a proud tradition of being a wholly run voluntary organisation for over 10 years. Therefore identifying support to develop volunteers and enable them to move up into governance roles within the organisation or for career aspirations is a key aim. We ensure they are involved in relevant strategic, operational and group development plans.

Training was undertaken by the new trustees on governance and to maximise the use of SACCO internal IT systems.

Risk management

The board of trustees are responsible for the identification and management of the risks faced by the organisation. Risk management processes were reviewed during the year and the key areas identified were:

- Governance - a number of trustees resigned in 2021 and this was addressed by the recruitment of new trustees with diverse skills and defined roles; and
- Finance - to increase the diversity of income streams, and implement improved financial processes. This was mitigated by recruiting a part-time Office Manager with financial background and a new experienced Treasurer.

We have now through increased trustee recruitment and our risk management processes are satisfied that the major risks have been identified and have been adequately mitigated where necessary. We will continue to monitor our risks.

Future work

Our future work includes preparation for Accreditation, work on completing intergenerational project in Merton, resuming Friendship Friday, British Science Association work, Conference and partnership work on mixed heritage succession planning and training.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Financial review

For the year ended 31 March 2022, incoming resources were £49,426 (2021: £34,519) and resources expended were £41,726 (2021: £27,089), resulting in a surplus for the year of £7,700 (2021: £7,430). Total funds at 31 March 2022 were £21,675 (2021: £13,976), of which £16,475 is held in restricted funds with £5,190 in unrestricted reserves.

We obtained a number of grants - some project specific but other small Covid-19 recovery grants - and work commenced on changes to our website, updating of policies re health and safety measures, infection control equipment and notices.

We received grants from the following funders. This increased funding allowed us to provide much needed part-time administrative support, a bookkeeper and some needed office equipment. We want to thank our funders:

- Arts Network Sutton;
- British Science Association;
- Clarion Housing Group;
- Community Action Sutton;
- London Borough of Sutton;
- National Lottery - Community Fund; and
- Yapp Charitable Trust.

We are also very appreciative for donations we received. We thank all for their generosity – Sutton High School, two local churches, local shops – Morrisons, Sainsbury, Tesco - and private individuals who gave us fresh produce from the allotments.

Reserves

Our reserves policy calls for unrestricted reserves to be held in the range of 3-6 months operating expenditure which is £6,772 - £13,544, based on the 2022/23 budget. Our unrestricted reserves currently are £5,190, (2021: £3,933). We need to continue to increase our unrestricted reserves to reach our target of 3 months. We continue to be a going concern as we secure and apply for funding required to sustain and grow SACCO's activities in 2022/23.

Independent examiners

Godfrey Wilson Limited were re-appointed as independent examiners to the charity during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 5 November 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Cleo Douglas

Cleo Douglas - Chair

Independent examiner's report

To the trustees of

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 13 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the trustees of the charity 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 charity'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act;
or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

William Guy Blake

Date: 8 November 2022

William Guy Blake ACA

Member of the ICAEW

For and on behalf of:

Godfrey Wilson Limited

Chartered accountants and statutory auditors

5th Floor Mariner House

62 Prince Street

Bristol

BS1 4QD

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Receipts and payments account

For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Grants	43,615	-	43,615	32,965
Donations	-	3,218	3,218	468
Membership subscriptions	-	142	142	278
Fundraising events	-	2,451	2,451	808
Total receipts	43,615	5,811	49,426	34,519
Payments				
Project costs	26,561	1,224	27,785	19,592
Admin expenses	4,767	1,583	6,350	5,379
Office costs	2,711	-	2,711	1,426
Purchase of assets	1,464	600	2,064	-
Accountancy fees	312	1,111	1,423	-
Telephone and internet	632	-	632	375
Training	479	-	479	-
Fundraising	246	-	246	-
Trustee expenses	-	36	36	-
Insurance	-	-	-	232
Printing, postage and stationery	-	-	-	85
Total payments	37,172	4,554	41,726	27,089
Net receipts	6,443	1,257	7,700	7,430
Cash funds at 1 April 2021	10,042	3,933	13,975	6,545
Cash funds at 31 March 2022	16,485	5,190	21,675	13,975

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Statement of assets and liabilities

As at 31 March 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Cash funds		
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>21,675</u>	<u>13,975</u>
Total cash funds	<u><u>21,675</u></u>	<u><u>13,975</u></u>
Cash funds		
Restricted funds	16,485	10,042
Unrestricted funds		
General funds	<u>5,190</u>	<u>3,933</u>
Total cash funds	<u><u>21,675</u></u>	<u><u>13,975</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on 5 November 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Cleo Douglas

Cleo Douglas - Chair

SUTTON AFRICAN & CARIBBEAN CULTURAL ORGANISATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1182079

Accounts

Charity no. 1182079

**Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural
Organisation
Receipts and Payments Accounts
31 March 2021**

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Charity number	1182079																
Registered office and operational address	21 Alexander Gardens Stanley Road Carshalton Surrey SM5 4LJ																
Trustees	<p>The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:</p> <table><tr><td>Grace Abamba</td><td>Appointed 11 November 2021</td></tr><tr><td>Kardar Challenger</td><td>Resigned 21 September 2021</td></tr><tr><td>Cleo Douglas</td><td>Chair</td></tr><tr><td>Veronica Fritzon</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Graham Hedley</td><td>Resigned 12 January 2021</td></tr><tr><td>Mic Lord</td><td>Appointed 16 October 2020, resigned 1 November 2021</td></tr><tr><td>Marina Pruce</td><td>Appointed 16 October 2020, resigned 30 July 2021</td></tr><tr><td>Annisha Taylor</td><td>Appointed 11 November 2021</td></tr></table>	Grace Abamba	Appointed 11 November 2021	Kardar Challenger	Resigned 21 September 2021	Cleo Douglas	Chair	Veronica Fritzon		Graham Hedley	Resigned 12 January 2021	Mic Lord	Appointed 16 October 2020, resigned 1 November 2021	Marina Pruce	Appointed 16 October 2020, resigned 30 July 2021	Annisha Taylor	Appointed 11 November 2021
Grace Abamba	Appointed 11 November 2021																
Kardar Challenger	Resigned 21 September 2021																
Cleo Douglas	Chair																
Veronica Fritzon																	
Graham Hedley	Resigned 12 January 2021																
Mic Lord	Appointed 16 October 2020, resigned 1 November 2021																
Marina Pruce	Appointed 16 October 2020, resigned 30 July 2021																
Annisha Taylor	Appointed 11 November 2021																
Bankers	<p>HSBC Bank 75 – 77 High Street Sutton SM1 1DU</p> <p>Metro Bank 83 - 87 High Street Sutton SM1 1JF</p>																
Independent examiners	Godfrey Wilson Limited Chartered accountants and statutory auditors 5th Floor Mariner House 62 Prince Street Bristol BS1 4QD																

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and constitution.

Objectives and activities

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation (SACCO), *Celebrating African and Caribbean Heritage in the Community*, became a charity in 2019. It was formerly Sutton Black History Group. We provide educational activities, cultural events and group meetings for all the community.

We concentrate on helping children and young people, raising expectations, social isolation and culturally appropriate activities, and we seek to address health disadvantages particular to the community.

Since 2019/20, work was underway to meet the status and Governance structures of a newly formed charitable organisation.

Our objectives for 2020-21 were:

- To maintain continuity of service despite the restrictions of Covid-19 by doing more online;
- To allow consolidation of structural changes and maintain stability;
- To recruit fresh expertise to the board of trustees in order to widen scope;
- To respond to the findings of the Ubele analysis regarding capacity;
- To respond to the training need audit of existing trustees and management committee;
- To implement ICT training to improve communications; and
- To apply for core funding in order to enhance the administrative support available to meet service demands.

Achievements and performance

The continued impact from Covid-19 and changing government guidelines created significant changes and adaptation to our working practices, but commitment from group members and volunteers allowed us to deliver outcomes and achieve our goals.

Projects undertaken were:

- African Village joint project with Community Action Sutton;
- Vaccine Video to encourage /reduce vaccine hesitancy;
- Polka Theatre 100 selfies;
- International Women's Day work with Sutton Womens centre;
- Attracting a small group of students from a local school - Young Voices - which has proven beneficial as they have brought young/new ideas, particularly in terms of Social Media;
- Completion of Growing Up oral project work with Sutton Heritage;
- Attendance at Merton Heritage Festival;
- Wellbeing food boxes to Sutton residents; and
- Kaleidoscope Magazine - increased readership both digitally and hard copies. Many people have given several positive comments on both the content and layout.

Black History Month - February 2021

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, we decided to postpone our regular Black History Month activities which would ordinarily be held in October and moved it to February. During this time, we were in partial lockdown whereby we could not meet in groups.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2021

We decided instead of cancelling our activities to move them all online. This brought a new challenge as we had to learn how to navigate platforms such as Eventbrite, which allowed for people to book onto our events. In addition to this, we had to learn how to use Zoom for a larger number of people other than those who are within our organisation.

The online events during February's Black History Month were a huge success. We launched the month by having an event with Patrick Hutchinson as our keynote speaker, as well as other people who delivered entertainment such as playing the violin, singing, poetry and dancing. Madam Mayoress Councillor, Trish Fivey, along with other stakeholders, were also in attendance. We held a Q&A session with Patrick, which revealed that we had people attending online from countries such as China, United States of America, Jamaica, Norway, France and Spain, as well as attendees from around the United Kingdom.

During Black History Month, we facilitated 43 online events during February with a further 18 events in March, some due to popular demand. These events were all free due to funding received from the National Lottery. We facilitated a broad range of activities from storytelling, art and comic design, for children, mixed ability chair exercise classes for our elders and those who have restricted mobility, pilates, yoga, ancestry and history talks, to mention a few. These online events allowed us to raise our profile as well as our reach. We had 797 participants in February with a further 490 in March, many of whom were repeat attendees. Events such as the mixed ability exercise class have continued throughout the year as we recognised the benefit it was having on individuals, especially for those who were isolating, and due to popular demand.

Our children and young person's events

Activities and services for children and young people are keen to highlight the contributions of people of African & Caribbean descent in Science, Technology, Engineering Arts and Maths (STEAM), and to promote diversity and inclusion in STEAM. This was done through the following projects:

- Butterfly project - providing families with an all-inclusive butterfly garden that allowed children and adults alike to be transfixed by the transformation of caterpillars into beautiful Painted Lady butterflies during lockdown;
- Look Up project based on Mae Jemison - with at home science experiments celebrating British Science Week during lockdown; and
- Gravity & Weightlessness project - children attended an aerial workshop.

We are keen to make sure that our community has the opportunity to access, learn about, identify with, enjoy and benefit from STEAM experiences. We believe now is the perfect time and we hope to be a catalyst for real change in our locality.

Our family and community learning workshops are a multi-generational, hands-on family engagement, designed to help children and their grown ups to learn and positively experience science and technology. We do this with the principles of creativity, culture and community.

Social media

Prior to Covid-19, SACCO's social media presence was quite small; it consisted of having a Facebook and Instagram page, and a twitter feed. We quickly recognised that in order for SACCO to remain in the public eye, we would have to increase our social media output. Many of the committee members' knowledge of working remotely and use of social media was very limited.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2021

We invested in the use of Zoom, which allowed us to have unlimited time for meetings, but to also carry out projects online. We learned to utilise platforms such as Hootsuite, which we used to make multiple social media posts at different times and days.

As we are an intergenerational charity, we had to try and understand our audience. We concentrated on the projects that we were running and used creative content to advertise them on platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and, more recently, YouTube and Tiktok.

There have been some challenges with delivering online classes, whereby we have found that some of our elderly users find navigating Eventbrite and Zoom a little difficult. We have tried to overcome this by having some of the committee members being available on the phone to guide them through the process. We also recognise that some of these participants would not use platforms such as Facebook and Instagram, so when advertising events and classes we email participants directly if we have contact details, but also ensure we send notification of these classes to other institutions and stakeholders such as the local NHS CCG and Age Concern.

Organisational development

SACCO celebrated Veronica Fritzon, who was nominated and awarded 'Trustee of the Year' and volunteer award winner.

The operational role was extremely busy, and as trustee/operational manager they:

- Undertook a skills assessment of the slimdown board of trustees, which demonstrated the need to recruit and appoint new trustees;
- Produced job descriptions and personal specifications for the trustees role;
- Prepared an information pack and application pack for new trustees;
- Promoted vacancies by word of mouth, contacting local voluntary bureaus, and local advertising channels;
- Recruited staff with other trustees, and realigned the management committee;
- Appointed a new Office Manager and organised induction;
- Undertook background checks, sought references and verified the accuracy of information;
- Created a checklist of who to be informed of appointments and what documents required updating following appointments;
- Identified existing trustee development needs and urged attendance at relevant training courses; and
- An assessment of group functioning and development needs was undertaken by UBELE and feedback from them was useful.

As part of the organisation's development, there were new laptops for committee use, the increase of remote working during lockdown, and exercise classes online.

We are very thankful for our volunteers who give their time freely and support SACCO in a range of roles and events throughout the year. SACCO has a proud tradition of being a wholly run, voluntary organisation for over 10 years. Therefore identifying support to develop volunteers and enable them to move up into governance roles within the organisation or for career aspirations is a key aim. We ensure they are involved in relevant strategic, operational and group development plans.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Risk management

The board of trustees are responsible for the identification and management of the risks faced by the organisation. Risk management processes were reviewed during the year and the key areas identified were:

- Governance - a number of trustees resigned in 2021 and this was addressed by the recruitment of new trustees with diverse skills and defined roles; and
- Finance - to increase the diversity of income streams, and implement improved financial processes. This was mitigated by recruiting a part-time Bookkeeper, Office Manager with a financial background, and an experienced Treasurer.

As a result of our trustee recruitment and risk management processes, we are now satisfied that the major risks have been identified and have been adequately mitigated where necessary. We will continue to monitor our risks.

Financial review

For the year ended 30 April 2021, incoming resources were £34,519 (2020: £23,091) and resources expended were £27,089 (2020: £16,871), resulting in a surplus for the year of £7,430 (2020: £6,208). Total funds at 30 April 2021 were £13,975 (2020: £6,545), of which £10,042 is held in restricted funds with £3,933 in unrestricted reserves.

We obtained a number of grants, some project specific and some other small Covid-19 recovery grants, and work commenced on changes to our website, and updating of policies regarding health and safety measures, infection control equipment and notices.

We received grants from the following funders. This increased funding allowed us to provide much needed part-time administrative support, a Bookkeeper and some needed office equipment. We want to thank our funders:

- Association of Study of Animal Behaviour;
- British Science Association;
- Clarion Housing;
- Community Action Sutton;
- Greater London Volunteering;
- London Borough of Sutton;
- Magic Little Grants;
- National Lottery - Community Fund; and
- Yapp Charitable Trust.

We are also very appreciative for donations we received. We thank all for their generosity – Sutton High School, two local churches, and local shops Morrisons, Sainsbury, Tesco, as well as private individuals who gave us fresh produce from the allotments.

Reserves

Our reserves policy calls for unrestricted reserves to be held in the range of 3-6 months operating expenditure which is £6,772. Our unrestricted reserves currently are £3,933. We need to increase our unrestricted reserves to reach our target of 3 months but, as our second year as a charity, we are nearly there. We continue to be a going concern as we secure and apply for funding required to sustain and grow SACCO's activities in 2021/22.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and publication by Charity Commission "Charities and Public Benefit".

SACCO charitable objectives are:

- For the benefit of the public to develop the capacity and skills of the members of the Black African and Caribbean disadvantaged community of LB Sutton and the surrounding area in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society;
- To provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their social circumstances, with the object of improving their conditions of life; and
- For the benefit of the public, SACCO will work towards the elimination of discrimination on the grounds of race or ethnicity.

As trustees, in fulfilment of its charitable objectives, we continually seek to include feedback from those who use our services, funders, members, volunteers and staff.

We have established and maintained good relationships with other stakeholders, colleges, local hospitals, BME groups, churches and businesses, and our success in this is reflected in increased awareness of our group, and more people wanting to work in partnership with us.

SACCO delivered a wide range of projects throughout the year.

Plans for future periods

Our future plans include preparation for accreditation, completing the intergenerational project in Merton, completing Friendship Friday development, British Science Association work, conference and partnership work on mixed heritage succession planning and training.

Structure, governance and management

SACCO is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its charity trustees.

There is a recruitment process for trustees including an application process, interview and references.

Our Annual General Meeting was held online on 22 October 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Independent examiners

Godfrey Wilson Limited were appointed as independent examiners to the charity during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 31 January 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Cleo Douglas

Cleo Douglas - Chair

Independent examiner's report

To the trustees of

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on pages 8 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the trustees of the charity 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 charity'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act;
or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

William Guy Blake

Date: 31 January 2022

William Guy Blake ACA

Member of the ICAEW

For and on behalf of:

Godfrey Wilson Limited

Chartered accountants and statutory auditors

5th Floor Mariner House

62 Prince Street

Bristol

BS1 4QD

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Receipts and payments account

For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2021 Total	Restated 2020 Total
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Grants	32,115	850	32,965	16,767
Fundraising events	-	808	808	3,253
Donations	-	468	468	500
Membership subscriptions	-	278	278	169
Refunds	-	-	-	2,402
Total receipts	<u>32,115</u>	<u>2,404</u>	<u>34,519</u>	<u>23,091</u>
Payments				
Project costs	19,592	-	19,592	2,548
Admin expenses	5,379	-	5,379	107
Office rent	1,426	-	1,426	3,600
Telephone and internet	253	122	375	293
Insurance	-	232	232	193
Printing, postage and stationery	-	85	85	876
Business rates	-	-	-	161
Repairs and maintenance	-	-	-	251
Fundraising	-	-	-	3,904
Purchase of assets	-	-	-	4,950
Total payments	<u>26,650</u>	<u>439</u>	<u>27,089</u>	<u>16,883</u>
Net receipts / (payments)	5,465	1,965	7,430	6,208
Cash funds at 1 April 2020	<u>4,577</u>	<u>1,968</u>	<u>6,545</u>	<u>337</u>
Cash funds at 31 March 2021	<u><u>10,042</u></u>	<u><u>3,933</u></u>	<u><u>13,975</u></u>	<u><u>6,545</u></u>

The prior year has been restated to correct a minor casting error on expenditure.

Sutton African & Caribbean Cultural Organisation

Statement of assets and liabilities

As at 31 March 2021

	2021	Restated
	£	2020
		£
Cash funds		
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>13,975</u>	<u>6,545</u>
Total cash funds	<u><u>13,975</u></u>	<u><u>6,545</u></u>
Cash funds		
Restricted funds	10,042	4,577
Unrestricted funds		
General funds	<u>3,933</u>	<u>1,968</u>
Total cash funds	<u><u>13,975</u></u>	<u><u>6,545</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on 31 January 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Cleo Douglas

Cleo Douglas - Chair