

FUEL MACEDONIA

England & Wales · Charity number 1189286

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2020-04-30

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

Contact

Address 3 Greenbanks
Upminster
RM14 3YR

Phone 07863806372

Email contact@fuelmacedonia.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS THE PREVENTION AND RELIEF OF POVERTY AND THE RELIEF OF THOSE IN NEED BY REASON OF FINANCIAL HARDSHIP IN THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA. THIS WILL INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO THE RELIEF OF POVERTY AND HARDSHIP THROUGH: THE PROVISION OF BASIC COMFORT NEEDS TO FAMILIES IN FINANCIAL HARDSHIP, PROMOTING AND PRESERVING GOOD HEALTH BY THE PROVISION OF BASIC FOOD AND GROCERIES, FINANCE AND OTHER SUPPORT AS THE TRUSTEES DEEM FIT TO OFFER FROM TIME TO TIME, MAKING GRANTS AVAILABLE TO ORGANISATIONS AND LOCAL PARTNERS APPROVED BY THE TRUSTEES, WHO ARE ABLE TO HELP OUR BENEFICIARIES' WELFARE AND EDUCATION. AND THE PREVENTION OF POVERTY THROUGH MAKING GRANTS AVAILABLE TO LOCAL EDUCATION ESTABLISHMENTS APPROVED BY THE TRUSTEES WHERE THE CURRICULUM IS APPROPRIATE TO EMPLOYMENT.

Activities: We seek to relieve poverty & financial hardship through grants to local partners in N Macedonia providing food, clothing & winter heating fuel; and to prevent poverty by grants to local education establishments with curriculums appropriate to employment.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Other Finance
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Macedonia

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£5,104	£5,965	-	-
2024-03-31	£7,936	£9,968	-	-
2023-03-31	£16,375	£13,704	-	-
2022-03-31	£12,918	£12,401	-	-
2021-03-31	£7,726	£7,027	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
IAN COPPEARD	Chair	2020-01-09
Daniel William Parker		2020-01-09
Dorothy Kathleen Woodward		2020-01-09
Louise Amber Albright		2020-01-09
Michael Ronald Smith		2020-01-09

FUEL MACEDONIA

England & Wales - Charity number 1189286

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts

Year ending: 31st March 2025

Charity Number: 1189286

Report Date: October 2025

Reference and Administration

Name: Fuel Macedonia

Number: 1189286

Principle Office: 3 Greenbanks, Cranham, Upminster RM14 3YR

Names of Trustees of the Charity

IP Coppeard, Chair of Trustees

D Parker

D Woodward

L Albright

M Smith

Names & Addresses of Advisors

Bank: Metro Bank, Romford

Structure, Governance and Management

Fuel Macedonia, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, is a registered charity, number 1189286, with a constitution dated 10th April 2020. The Charity raises funds to support appropriate projects managed by carefully selected Local Partners and Partner Organisations who live and operate in the Republic of North Macedonia in line with the Constitution's Objects and in accordance with the Charity's Grant Making and Due Diligence policies.

New Trustees are appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the current Trustees and are appointed indefinitely. The Constitution provides for a minimum of 3 to a maximum of 7 Trustees, all appointed indefinitely. The current Board consists of 5 people who bring the following skills to the operation: the original vision, project and people management, web design and media production, English as a foreign language and other languages, finance (ex-bank manager) and passion for the cause and people.

At the trustees' meetings the Trustees review the current projects, the level of funding needed and available, and they look at ways of raising the profile of the charity to encourage more giving. They use these opportunities to consider additional grants to projects or the raising of funds for new projects suggested by the Charity's Local Partners or Partner Organisations.

On appointment new Trustees sign the Charity's 'Trustee Code of Conduct', are made aware of the current Local Partners and Partner Organisations through whom grants are distributed, and the current projects the Charity is supporting. They have access to, and are expected to read, the Charity's policies on grant making, due diligence, confidentiality, data protection and conflict of interests.

All Trustees give of their time freely and no Trustee remuneration has been paid. Details of Trustee expenses are disclosed in Note 1 of the accounts. Trustees are required to disclose all relevant interests and register them with the Chair of Trustees and, in accordance with the Charity's policy, withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises.

The major risk for the Charity is the potential failure of a funded project and the effects on the donor(s). Hence the Grant Making and Due Diligence Policies are key in the decision-making process for the agreement to raise funds for a grant or project, therefore, these policies are constantly under review to ensure that they are fit-for-purpose.

Objects and Activities for the public benefit

The object of the Charity is the prevention and relief of poverty and the relief of those in need by reason of financial hardship in the Republic of North Macedonia.

The Charity carries out these objects through (but is not limited to) the following activities:

- funding the provision of basic comfort needs to families in financial hardship, promoting and preserving good health by the provision of basic food and groceries (food parcels), fuel (gas and wood) for winter heating, and other support as the Trustees deemed fit,
- making grants available to Partner Organisations and Local Partners who are able to help the beneficiaries' welfare (mental health and wellbeing seminars).
- prevention of poverty through making grants available to local education establishments approved by the Trustees where the curriculum is appropriate to employment (the micro-school project is still under development and not yet being funded).
- funding sustainable projects that increase the living standards of the local residents (a 'food garden' where locals are instructed on growing methods and grow food that they can both use and sell).

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in considering future activities and the grant making policy for the year.

Grant making policy

The Charity has established its Grant Making Policy to clearly lay out the way the Charity works to achieve the Charity's objects (see above). This policy is reviewed annually by the trustees to ensure it is fit for purpose to advance public benefit.

The Charity's beneficiaries are all in various degrees of financial hardship and, whilst most of this year's efforts have centred around the relief of poverty, the Trustees have been very pleased to see the sustainable garden (which is preventing poverty) blossom under the new management of the Roma people for whom it was intended. The beneficiaries have to be known by the Local Partners or Trustees and the Grant Making Policy has been worded to protect abuse of the donations received through Trustee contacts and site visits.

Executive Summary

We, as Trustees, have been very gratified by the response to the appeals we have made for the various projects that have been brought to us by our Local Partners and Community Outreach Project Leaders. The following is a summary of our achievements and performance in our fourth full year of operation from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025:

Relief of poverty & financial hardship

- Purchase of 3 months of heating each for 3 households at a total cost of £401.
- Purchase of 13 food parcels for 3 households at a cost of £407.
- Regular support of 2 families who live in very difficult situations through a specific donor.

Beneficiaries' welfare

- Financially supporting 7 sessions of a wellbeing course for 8 men at a cost of £484.

Community Outreach projects

- £4,131 for 4 project areas, Banica, Polog (Tetovo & Gostivar), Prilep and Resen
- Provided for 56 households:
 - 8 households received 22 metres of wood between them
 - 34 households received 102 food parcels

Since the Charity's year end (31st March 2025) we have provided a further:

- £184 for 14 metres of wood for 5 families
- £313 for 7 food parcels for 2 families
- £539 for a further 5 the wellbeing seminars and a new one in Bitola for 15 people
- £2,360 for additional grants to the 4 Community Outreach projects providing for 27 households:
 - 5 receiving 12 metres of wood
 - 22 receiving 28 food parcels

Achievements and Performance

We are so grateful for the generosity of people in the UK towards the people of Macedonia that has made a real difference in the lives of many households. Trustees have had the privilege of meeting some of the beneficiaries who have expressed their gratitude and thanks towards the people who have given so freely – it is always very humbling for us.

All the projects we have undertaken to support have been those suggested by our Local Partners and they are all ongoing projects from year to year. The following report gives more details of the projects for the time period from the start of this financial year to the date of the report.

Relief of Poverty/Financial Hardship:

Winter Heating

In summary this project purchases either firewood or Calor gas, to heat homes during the worst 3 months of the year because the price of electricity for heating is considerable and the gathering of firewood is controlled by the government (there are wood police!). Where necessary we will also purchase a wood burning stove for heating and/or cooking.

With the start of the Community Outreach (CO) initiative, we now have only 1 Local Partner who requests wood and he looks out for households in need in Skopje. This last winter has been a lot milder than other years and there have not been so many requests for help – coupled with a lower donation rate.

This year we were able to buy a total of 9 months of heating for 3 households at a total cost of £401. (We didn't need to buy any stoves this year as they had been purchased last year!!)



Food Parcels

Food parcels are never the same – they depend on the makeup and heritage of the family concerned. They average £40 per 'food parcel' which will also contain cleaning and washing materials. Once again with the advent of our Community Outreach Project, food parcels were not so sought after – have a look at the CO figures.

This year we were able to buy 13 food parcels for 3 households at a cost of £407.



Community Outreach projects

This initiative was born out of observing groups reaching out to their own, and sometimes new, communities and incurring expenses to provide for some of the basic needs that the Project Leaders found in their work. Their aims are always to better the living situations and improve the living environments of those residing in their areas.

This year a new CO project was added, Prilep, which is in the middle of the country and the Project Leader serves a predominantly Roma community. Vratnica was stopped as the Project Leader has suffered significant health issues and was unable to continue the work he'd started in the village.

In total, for the Community Outreach initiative, we have been able to fund:

- 34 households received 102 parcels
- 8 households received a total of 22 months' heating

At a cost of £4,131

Project specifics:

Banica: received £350 this year (plus what was left over from the previous year). This project supports 6 families with food parcels every month, delivering a total of 48 food parcels. It was decided that whilst this was a very worthwhile area to invest in, it was not completely within the bounds of *Fuel Macedonia's* objects to support 6 families regularly (recognised that this occurs in the Food Parcel project but that is a specifically designated gift given to help 2 families.)

Polog (Tetovo and Gostivar): received £972 this year (plus what was left over from the previous year). The Project Leader has supported 6 families with 27 food parcels and 2 households with 7 metres of wood between them.

Prilep: received £570 this year, most of which will be carried over to the next financial year. This project is supported 1 household with 2 food parcels.

Resen: received £2,239 this year (plus what was left over from the previous year). The Project Leader has supported 21 families with 25 food parcels and 7 families with 15 metres of wood between them.

Since year end the projects have been granted an extra £2,000: Polog £1,000 and Prilep and Resen a further £500 each. We have also added Bitola as another community outreach project area with an initial grant of £360

Beneficiaries' Welfare:

Wellbeing sessions

These are run by our Local Partner in Tetovo, who has a venue.

This particular cohort is made up of 8 guys from 2 cities: Tetovo and Gostivar, and they've met 7 times this year and it's been funded by *Fuel Macedonia*, at a cost of £484 and a further £139 since year end. The new course in Bitola was funded since year end to the tune of £400 for 15 individuals.

Sustainable Projects:

Shutka Food Garden

The food garden in Shutka had a good year this year but the garden manager has obtained a full-time job and we will have to see what transpires next year.

Financial review

The Charity depends on donations to enable grants to be given. The Charity has no investments or endowments to provide a steady income. Therefore, each new project has to be marketed and have funds raised for it. No 'promises' of grants are given for which funds have not already been received or promised.

The Charity has no regular support or governance costs and, therefore, there are no reserves.

Plans for the future

The Trustees have continued developing their relationships with, and encouraging the activities of, all the Local Partners through another year and this is where the new project for Community Outreach has developed from. We are aiming to continue our 'winter aid' of heating materials and food parcels for families in need through our Community Outreach projects in Tetovo/Gostivar (Polog region), Prilep and Resen.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires trustee(s) to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charity Commission's 'Charities Statement of Recommended Practice';
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ascertain to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Constitution. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included on the Charity's website.

Approved by the Trustees on 18th November 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Ian Paul Coppeard	Louise Amber Albright
Position	Chair of Trustees	Trustee
Date	18/11/2025	

Fuel Macedonia
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 01/04/2024 to 31/03/2025

Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
Receipts					
Donations for Projects	4,948	-	-	4,948	7,191
Donations for Charity Overheads	-	-	-	-	340
Gift Aid reclaimed	156	-	-	156	405
Subtotal Receipts	5,104	-	-	5,104	7,936

Asset and investment sales					
None	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	5,104	-	-	5,104	7,936

Payments					
Grants for Food Parcels	407	-	-	407	390
Grants for Winter Heating	401	-	-	401	3,108
Grants for Shutka Food Garden	320	-	-	320	292
Grant for the Food Bank	-	-	-	-	-
Community Outreach	4,131	-	-	4,131	5,360
Wellbeing Sessions	484	-	-	484	563
Miscellaneous Grants (note 2)	-	-	-	-	66
Charity costs spent in Macedonia	-	-	-	-	100
Subtotal payments in Macedonia	5,743	-	-	5,743	9,879
Cost of Grants in exchange rate fees	11	-	-	11	29
Cost of Donations on NowDonate platform	-	-	-	-	3
Charity running costs not in Macedonia	211	-	-	211	57
Subtotal all Payments	5,965	-	-	5,965	9,968

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
Asset and investment purchases					
None	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	5,965	-	-	5,965	9,968
Net of receipts & payments	(861)	-	-	(861)	(2,033)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds from last year end	2,296	-	-	2,296	4,328
Cash funds this year end	1,435	-	-	1,435	2,296

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
Cash funds	Current Account	1,435	-	-
	Total cash funds	1,435	-	-
Other monetary assets	Gift aid reclaim	-	-	-
Investment assets	None			
Assets retained for the charity's own use	None			
Liabilities	None			

Notes to the Accounts

1. Trustee expenses have only been for reimbursement of items needed to run the charity
2. Miscellaneous grants are those where an individual need is found and responded to and includes financial assistance for cooking stoves. Funds are raised specifically for these.

FUEL MACEDONIA

England & Wales - Charity number 1189286

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts

Year ending: 31st March 2024

Charity Number: 1189286

Report Date: September 2024

Reference and Administration

Name: Fuel Macedonia

Number: 1189286

Principle Office: 3 Greenbanks, Cranham, Upminster RM14 3YR

Names of Trustees of the Charity

IP Coppeard, Chair of Trustees

D Parker

D Woodward

L Albright

M Smith

Names & Addresses of Advisors

Bank: Metro Bank, Romford

Structure, Governance and Management

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At the trustees' meetings the Trustees review the current projects, the level of funding needed and available, and they look at ways of raising the profile of the charity to encourage more giving. They use these opportunities to consider additional grants to projects or the raising of funds for new projects suggested by the Charity's Local Partners or Partner Organisations.

On appointment new Trustees sign the Charity's 'Trustee Code of Conduct', are made aware of the current Local Partners and Partner Organisations through whom grants are distributed, and the current projects the Charity is supporting. They have access to, and are expected to read, the Charity's policies on grant making, due diligence, confidentiality, data protection and conflict of interests.

All Trustees give of their time freely and no Trustee remuneration has been paid. Details of Trustee expenses are disclosed in Note 1 of the accounts. Trustees are required to disclose all relevant interests and register them with the Chair of Trustees and, in accordance with the Charity's policy, withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises.

The major risk for the Charity is the potential failure of a funded project and the effects on the donor(s). Hence the Grant Making and Due Diligence Policies are key in the decision-making process for the agreement to raise funds for a grant or project, therefore, these policies are constantly under review to ensure that they are fit-for-purpose.

Objects and Activities for the public benefit

The object of the Charity is the prevention and relief of poverty and the relief of those in need by reason of financial hardship in the Republic of North Macedonia.

The Charity carries out these objects through (but is not limited to) the following activities:

- funding the provision of basic comfort needs to families in financial hardship, promoting and preserving good health by the provision of basic food and groceries (food parcels), fuel (gas and wood) for winter heating, and other support as the Trustees deemed fit,
- making grants available to Partner Organisations and Local Partners who are able to help the beneficiaries' welfare (mental health and wellbeing seminars).
- prevention of poverty through making grants available to local education establishments approved by the Trustees where the curriculum is appropriate to employment (the micro-school project is still under development and not yet being funded).
- funding sustainable projects that increase the living standards of the local residents (a 'food garden' where locals are instructed on growing methods and grow food that they can both use and sell).

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in considering future activities and the grant making policy for the year.

Grant making policy

The Charity has established its Grant Making Policy to clearly lay out the way the Charity works to achieve the Charity's objectives (see above). During this first year the trustees have been continually reviewing this policy to ensure it is fit for purpose to advance public benefit.

The Charity's beneficiaries are all in various degrees of financial hardship and, whilst most of this year's efforts have centred around the relief of poverty, the Trustees have been very pleased to see the sustainable garden (which is preventing poverty) handed over to joint management of the Roma people for whom it was intended. The beneficiaries have to be known by the Local Partners or Trustees and the Grant Making Policy has been worded to protect abuse of the donations received through Trustee contacts and site visits.

Executive Summary

We, as Trustees, have been very gratified by the response to the appeals we have made for the various projects that have been brought to us by our Local Partners and the following is a summary of our achievements and performance in our third full year of operation from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024:

Relief of poverty & financial hardship

- Purchase of 49 months of heating for 17 households at a total cost of £3,107.
- Purchase of 3 heating/cooking stoves at a cost of £66
- Purchase of 15 food parcels for 2 households at a cost of £390.
- Regular support of 2 families who live in very difficult situations

Beneficiaries' welfare

- Financially supporting 10 sessions of a wellbeing course for 9 men at a cost of £563.

Community Outreach projects started in Feb 2023

- £5,360 for 4 project areas, Banica, Polog (Tetovo & Gostivar), Resen and Vratnica
- Provided for 65 households;
 - 8 households received 24 metres of wood between them
 - 57 households received 159 food parcels

Since the Charity's year end (31st March 2024) we have provided a further:

- £811 for 14 metres of wood for 5 families
- £199 for 7 food parcels for 2 families
- £282 for a further 5 the wellbeing seminars
- £2,100 for additional grants to the 4 Community Outreach projects providing for 25 households:
 - 4 receiving 11 metres of wood
 - 21 receiving 60 food parcels

Achievements and Performance

We are so grateful for the generosity of people in the UK towards the people of Macedonia that has made a real difference in the lives of many households. Trustees have had the privilege of meeting some of the beneficiaries who have expressed their gratitude and thanks towards the people who have given so freely – it is always very humbling for us.

All the projects we have undertaken to support have been those suggested by our Local Partners and they are all ongoing projects from year to year. The following report gives more details of the projects for the time period from the inception of the Charity to the date of the report.

Relief of Poverty/Financial Hardship:

Winter Heating

In summary this project purchases either firewood or Calor gas, to heat homes during the worst 3 months of the year because the price of electricity for heating is considerable and the gathering of firewood is controlled by the government (there are wood police!). Where necessary we will also purchase a wood burning stove for heating and cooking.

With the start of the Community Outreach initiative, we now have only 1 Local Partner who requests wood and he looks out for households in need in Skopje. This last winter has been a lot milder than other years and there have not been so many requests for help – coupled with a lower donation rate.

This year we were able to buy 49 months of heating for 17 households at a total cost of £3,107 and 3 heating/cooking wood burning stoves at a total cost of £66.



Food Parcels



Food parcels are never the same – they depend on the makeup and heritage of the family concerned. They average £40 per 'food parcel' which will also contain cleaning and washing materials. Once again with the advent of our Community Outreach Project, food parcels were not so sought for – have a look at the CO figures.

This year we were able to buy 14 food parcels for 2 households at a cost of £390.

Community Outreach projects

This new initiative was born out of seeing groups reaching out to new communities and incurring expenses – often from the Project Leaders' own pockets, to provide for some of the basic needs that they found in their work. Their aims are to better the living situations and improve the living environments of those residing in these areas.

This year a new project was added: Resen, in the Southwest of the country.

In total, for the Community Outreach initiative, we have been able to fund:

- 57 households received 159 parcels
- 8 households received 24 months' heating
- At a cost of £5,360

Project specifics:

Banica: received £1,550 this year. This project supports 6 families with food parcels every month, delivering a total of 90 parcels.

Polog (Tetovo and Gostivar): received £2,167 this year. The Project Leader has supported 28 families with 30 food parcels and 5 households with 3 metres of wood each.

Resen: received £1,179 this year. This project is new in the town and is gradually building up contacts. The Project Leaders have supported 17 families with a food parcel and 3 families with 3 metres of wood each.

Vratnica: received £463 this year. This project is also regularly supporting 6 households in the village with 18 food parcels. Due to continued poor health and over-work, the Project Leader has scaled down his operation there for a time after our year-end. He is occasionally visiting the village and schools with teams from Shutka (and, yes, from those who are now working on the Food Garden).

Since year end Banica has received a further £350, Polog £500 and Resen a further £1,250.

Beneficiaries' Welfare:

Wellbeing sessions

These are run by our Local Partner in Tetovo, who has a venue.

These are run by our Local Partner in Tetovo, who has a venue. This particular cohort is made up of 9 guys from 2 cities: Tetovo and Gostivar, and they've met 9 times this year and it's been funded by *Fuel Macedonia*, at a cost of £563 and a further £70 since year end.

Sustainable Projects:

Shutka Food Garden

The original food garden in Shutka was handed over to the Pentecostal church that owns the land and a local Roma man, was tasked with seeing what he could do with the 40-metre greenhouse and land around it. After much hard work and with the help of a small group of Roma friends and a visiting Dutch team, he was able to secure an abundant harvest of produce (tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, chillis, aubergines, okra, pumpkins, squashes, water melons) plus apples and cherries from trees growing wild on the premises.

Since learning of the rise of the garden *FM* teams have developed a working relationship with this man and his team and we are supporting, where we can, with physical help, as well as finances for seeds etc.

Financial review

The Charity depends on donations to enable grants to be given. The Charity has no investments or endowments to provide a steady income. Therefore, each new project has to be marketed and have funds raised for it. No 'promises' of grants are given for which funds have not already been received or promised.

The Charity has no regular support or governance costs and, therefore, there are no reserves.

Plans for the future

The Trustees have continued developing their relationships with, and encouraging the activities of, all the Local Partners through another year and this is where the new project for Community Outreach has developed from. We are aiming to continue our 'winter aid' of heating materials and food parcels for families in need through our Community Outreach projects in Tetovo/Gostivar (Polog region), Skopje/Matka and Resen.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires trustee(s) to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charity Commission's 'Charities Statement of Recommended Practice';
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ascertain to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Constitution. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included on the Charity's website.

Approved by the Trustees on 5th November 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Ian Paul Coppeard	Daniel William Parker
Position	Chair of Trustees	Trustee
Date	5/11/2024	

Fuel Macedonia
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024

Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
Receipts					
Donations for Projects	7,191	-	-	7,191	15,258
Donations for Charity Overheads	340	-	-	340	605
Gift Aid reclaimed	405	-	-	405	512
Subtotal Receipts	7,936	-	-	7,936	16,375

Asset and investment sales					
None	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	7,936	-	-	7,936	16,375

Payments					
Grants for Food Parcels	390	-	-	390	1,501
Grants for Winter Heating	3,108	-	-	3,108	8,636
Grants to Feed Homeless in Skopje	-	-	-	-	-
Grants for Shutka Food Garden	292	-	-	292	-
Grant for the Food Bank	-	-	-	-	-
Community Outreach	5,360	-	-	5,360	2,000
Wellbeing Sessions	563	-	-	563	528
Miscellaneous Grants (note 2)	66	-	-	66	460
Charity costs spent in Macedonia	100	-	-	100	247
Subtotal payments in Macedonia	9,879	-	-	9,879	13,372
Cost of Grants in exchange rate fees	29	-	-	29	111
Cost of Donations on NowDonate platform	3	-	-	3	16
Charity running costs not in Macedonia	57	-	-	57	205
Subtotal all Payments	9,968	-	-	9,968	13,704

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
Asset and investment purchases					
None	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	9,968	-	-	9,968	13,704
Net of receipts & payments	(2,033)	-	-	(2,033)	2,672
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds from last year end	4,328	-	-	4,328	1,772
Cash funds this year end	2,296	-	-	2,296	4,443

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
Cash funds	Current Account	2,296	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,296	-	-
Other monetary assets	Gift aid reclaim	-	-	-
Investment assets	None			
Assets retained for the charity's own use	None			
Liabilities	None			

Notes to the Accounts

1. Trustee expenses have only been for reimbursement of items needed to run the charity
2. Miscellaneous grants are those where an individual need is found and responded to and includes financial assistance for cooking stoves. Funds are raised specifically for these.

FUEL MACEDONIA

England & Wales - Charity number 1189286

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts

Year ending: 31st March 2023

Charity Number: 1189286

Report Date: September 2023

Reference and Administration

Name: Fuel Macedonia

Number: 1189286

Principle Office: 3 Greenbanks, Cranham, Upminster RM14 3YR

Names of Trustees of the Charity

IP Coppeard, Chair of Trustees

D Parker

D Woodward

L Albright

M Smith

Names & Addresses of Advisors

Bank: Metro Bank, Romford

Structure, Governance and Management

Fuel Macedonia, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, is a registered charity, number 1189286, with a constitution dated 10th April 2020. The Charity raises funds to support appropriate projects managed by carefully selected Local Partners and Partner Organisations who live and operate in the Republic of North Macedonia in line with the Constitution's Objects and in accordance with the Charity's Grant Making and Due Diligence policies.

New Trustees are appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the current Trustees and are appointed indefinitely. The Constitution provides for a minimum of 3 to a maximum of 7 Trustees, all appointed indefinitely. The current Board consists of 5 people who bring the following skills to the operation: the original vision, project and people management, web design and media production, English as a foreign language and other languages, finance (ex-bank manager) and passion for the cause and people.

At the trustees' meetings the Trustees review the current projects, the level of funding needed and available, and they look at ways of raising the profile of the charity to encourage more giving. They use these opportunities to consider additional grants to projects or the raising of funds for new projects suggested by the Charity's Local Partners or Partner Organisations.

On appointment new Trustees sign the Charity's 'Trustee Code of Conduct', are made aware of the current Local Partners and Partner Organisations through whom grants are distributed, and the current projects the Charity is supporting. They have access to, and are expected to read, the Charity's policies on grant making, due diligence, confidentiality, data protection and conflict of interests.

All Trustees give of their time freely and no Trustee remuneration has been paid. Details of Trustee expenses are disclosed in Note 1 of the accounts. Trustees are required to disclose all relevant interests and register them with the Chair of Trustees and, in accordance with the Charity's policy, withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises.

The major risk for the Charity is the potential failure of a funded project and the effects on the donor(s). Hence the Grant Making and Due Diligence Policies are key in the decision-making process for the agreement to raise funds for a grant or project, therefore, these policies are constantly under review to ensure that they are fit-for-purpose.

Objects and Activities for the public benefit

The object of the Charity is the prevention and relief of poverty and the relief of those in need by reason of financial hardship in the Republic of North Macedonia.

The Charity carries out these objects through (but is not limited to) the following activities:

- funding the provision of basic comfort needs to families in financial hardship, promoting and preserving good health by the provision of basic food and groceries (food parcels), fuel (gas and wood) for winter heating, and other support as the Trustees deemed fit,
- making grants available to Partner Organisations and Local Partners who are able to help the beneficiaries' welfare (mental health and wellbeing seminars).
- prevention of poverty through making grants available to local education establishments approved by the Trustees where the curriculum is appropriate to employment (the micro-school project is still under development and not yet being funded).
- funding sustainable projects that increase the living standards of the local residents (a 'food garden' where locals are instructed on growing methods and grow food that they can both use and sell).

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in considering future activities and the grant making policy for the year.

Grant making policy

The Charity has established its Grant Making Policy to clearly lay out the way the Charity works to achieve the Charity's objectives (see above). During this first year the trustees have been continually reviewing this policy to ensure it is fit for purpose to advance public benefit.

The Charity's beneficiaries are all in various degrees of financial hardship and, whilst most of this year's efforts have centred around the relief of poverty, the Trustees have been very pleased to see the sustainable garden (which is preventing poverty) handed over to joint management of the Roma people for whom it was intended. The beneficiaries have to be known by the Local Partners or Trustees and the Grant Making Policy has been worded to protect abuse of the donations received through Trustee contacts and site visits.

Executive Summary

We, as Trustees, have been very gratified by the response to the appeals we have made for the various projects that have been brought to us by our Local Partners and the following is a summary of our achievements and performance in our second full year of operation from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023:

Relief of poverty & financial hardship

- Purchase of 117 months of heating for 43 households at a total cost of £8,635.
- Purchase of 12 heating/cooking stoves at a cost of £530
- Purchase of 42 food parcels for 13 households at a cost of £1,500.
- Regular support of 2 families who live in very difficult situations

Beneficiaries' welfare

- Financially supporting 11 sessions of a wellbeing course for 9 men at a cost of £528.

Community Outreach projects started in Feb 2023

- £2,000 for 3 project areas, Banica, Vratnica and the Polog (Tetovo & Gostivar)
- Provided for 19 households;
 - 4 households received 4 metres of wood between them
 - 15 households received 28 food parcels
 - 2 households received a wood-burning stove/cooker

Since the Charity's year end (31st March 2023) we have added an additional Community Outreach area of Resen (in the mid-south) and provided a further:

- £811 for 14 metres of wood for 5 families
- £199 for 7 food parcels for 2 families
- £282 for a further 5 the wellbeing seminars
- £3,137 for additional grants to the 4 Community Outreach projects providing for 19 households:
 - 3 receiving 9 metres of wood each
 - 27 receiving 60 food parcels

Achievements and Performance

We are so grateful for the generosity of people in the UK towards the people of Macedonia that has made a real difference in the lives of many households. Trustees have had the privilege of meeting some of the beneficiaries who have expressed their gratitude and thanks towards the people who have given so freely – it is always very humbling for us.

All the projects we have undertaken to support have been those suggested by our Local Partners and they are all ongoing projects from year to year. The following report gives more details of the projects for the time period from the inception of the Charity to the date of the report.

Relief of Poverty/Financial Hardship:

Winter Heating

In summary this project purchases either firewood or Calor gas, to heat homes during the worst 3 months of the year because the price of electricity for heating is considerable and the gathering of firewood is controlled by the government (there are wood police!).

We now have 2 Local Partners who regularly give us requests for wood: one in Tetovo/Gostivar, the other in Skopje. Last winter was particularly difficult as it was not only cold but there was the isolation of lockdown and lack of employment causing further hardship through evictions.



This year we were able to buy 117 months of heating for 42 households at a total cost of £8,635 and 12 heating/cooking wood burning stoves at a total cost of £530.

Food Parcels



Food parcels are never the same – they depend on the makeup and heritage of the family concerned and they vary in price. The parcels are meant to supplement the household's groceries, not completely provide for them. They average £40 per 'food parcel', can also contain cleaning and washing materials, would be for a family of 2 adults and 2 smaller children.

This year we were able to buy 42 food parcels for 13 households (2 of which have been on-going support for families in particularly difficult situations), at a

cost of £1,500.

We have been able to fund a further 6 food parcels for the 2 regulars, at a cost of £174.

Community Outreach projects

This project was born out of seeing groups reaching out to new communities and incurring expenses – often from the Project Leaders' own pockets, to provide for some of the basic needs that they found in their work. Their aims are to better the living situations and improve the living environments of those residing in these areas. They are usually in communication with, and have the favour of, the

local administrations. The community leaders have ideas for projects that would enhance their communities and these are duly considered by the Project Leaders. We are happy to give grants to the following projects for the purchase of food and wood for heating and cooking, and where necessary to purchase cooking/heating stoves from the sources found in the Winter Heating project.

Banica: received £1,000 this year (& an additional £500 since year-end). This project supports 6 families with food parcels every week. It also bought a stove and a cooker for 2 families and 2 metres of wood that were shared between 3 families. This family support has continued since year-end.



<= This is a house built by the Project Leader for a family who'd been living in a makeshift shack

Vratnica: received £500 this year (& an additional £463 since year-end). This project is also regularly supporting 6 households in the village with food parcels. Due to illness and over-work, the Project Leader has scaled down his operation there for a time after our year-end. He is still visiting with teams from Shutka (and, yes, from those who are now working on the Food Garden).

Polog (Tetovo and Gostivar): received £500 this year (& an additional £960 since year-end). The Project Leader has supported 3 families with a food parcel and 1 household with 2 metres of wood. Since year-end 11 households have received food parcels and 2 households have received 3 metres each in preparation for the coming winter.

Resen: a new project that we have started supporting since year-end with a request for help for wood and food parcels for families in the town (£714).

Beneficiaries' Welfare:

Wellbeing sessions

These are run by our Local Partner in Tetovo, who has a venue. The meetings have continued unabated since the pandemic restrictions were lifted due to the enthusiasm of the Local Partner and the participants.

These seminars/courses have been funded by *Fuel Macedonia*, at a cost of £538, and a further £266 to the end of August this year.

Sustainable Projects:

Shutka Food Garden

This project was handed over to the church that owns the land the greenhouse is on and the Roma people to manage. Having visited the site in September (2 trustees) we have been very impressed with the progress the person in charge has made – there was an abundant harvest this autumn that fed the families at the kindergarten and the church. The leader has a feeding ‘programme’ with the local Roma children – providing a meal for them every weekday. He is also including and training those that show an interest in the garden how to grow and tend the crops. We are in close contact with the church leader and as trustees are considering how we can best support this ‘new’ garden.

Food Bank of Macedonia

It would appear the Food Bank has financial backers from other sources and has weathered the difficulties of the pandemic and the rise in fuel costs for transportation of the food to other regions of the country.

Financial review

The Charity depends on donations to enable grants to be given. The Charity has no investments or endowments to provide a steady income. Therefore, each new project has to be marketed and have funds raised for it. No ‘promises’ of grants are given for which funds have not already been received or promised.

The Charity has no regular support or governance costs and, therefore, there are no reserves.

Plans for the future

This year’s achievements were greatly boosted by an unsolicited donation from a UK company that has an operational plant in Macedonia and is one of the major employers in the country. They wanting to put something back into the country they operate in. We have visited the plant and have spoken with their community liaison officer. We have hopes for future opportunities that our Local Partners in this area could take advantage of and further assist the people they are reaching out to.

The Trustees have continued developing their relationships with, and encouraging the activities of, all the Local Partners through another year and this is where the new project for Community Outreach has developed from. We are aiming to continue our ‘winter aid’ of heating materials and food parcels for families in need through our Community Outreach projects in Tetovo/Gostivar (Polog region), Skopje/Matka and Resen.

The IT micro-school is still a project that is very dear to our hearts in *Fuel Macedonia* as it will enable young people to obtain employable skills and the possibility of employment. The originator, Veton Vela, is still very keen to start the micro-school(s) and it looks as though this will now happen through his company, Wayland.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires trustee(s) to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charity Commission's 'Charities Statement of Recommended Practice';
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ascertain to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Constitution. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included on the Charity's website.

Approved by the Trustees on 17th October 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Ian Paul Coppeard	Dorothy Woodward
Position	Chair of Trustees	Trustee
Date	17/10/2023	

Fuel Macedonia
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 01/04/2022 to 31/03/2023

Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
Receipts					
Donations for Projects	15,258	-	-	15,258	11,344
Donations for Charity Overheads	605	-	-	605	427
Gift Aid reclaimed	512	-	-	512	1,147
Subtotal Receipts	16,375	-	-	16,375	12,918
Asset and investment sales					
None	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	16,375	-	-	16,375	12,918
Payments					
Grants for Food Parcels	1,501	-	-	1,501	956
Grants for Winter Heating	8,636	-	-	8,636	4,543
Grants to Feed Homeless in Skopje	-	-	-	-	234
Grants for Shutka Food Garden	-	-	-	-	3,020
Grant for the Food Bank	-	-	-	-	951
Community Outreach	2,000	-	-	2,000	-
Wellbeing Sessions	528	-	-	528	672
Miscellaneous Grants (note 2)	460	-	-	460	1,415
Charity costs spent in Macedonia	247	-	-	247	166
Subtotal payments in Macedonia	13,372	-	-	13,372	11,957
Cost of Grants in exchange rate fees	111	-	-	111	104
Cost of Donations on NowDonate platform	16	-	-	16	19
Charity running costs not in Macedonia	205	-	-	205	322
Subtotal all Payments	13,704	-	-	13,704	12,401

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
Asset and investment purchases					
None	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	13,704	-	-	13,704	12,401
Net of receipts & payments	2,672	-	-	2,672	517
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds from last year end	1,772	-	-	1,772	1,440
Cash funds this year end	4,443	-	-	4,443	1,957

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
Cash funds	Current Account	4,328	-	-
	Total cash funds	4,328	-	-
Other monetary assets	Gift aid reclaim	-	-	-
Investment assets	None			
Assets retained for the charity's own use	None			
Liabilities	None			

Notes to the Accounts

- Trustee expenses have only been for reimbursement of items needed to run the charity

2. Miscellaneous grants are those where an individual need is found and responded to and includes financial assistance for funeral costs and dental bills. Funds are raised specifically for these purposes.

FUEL MACEDONIA

England & Wales - Charity number 1189286

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts

Year ending: 31st March 2022

Charity Number: 1189286

Report Date: October 2022

Reference and Administration

Name: Fuel Macedonia

Number: 1189286

Principle Office: 3 Greenbanks, Cranham, Upminster RM14 3YR

Names of Trustees of the Charity

IP Coppeard, Chair of Trustees

D Parker

D Woodward

L Smith

M Smith

Names & Addresses of Advisors

Bank: Metro Bank, Romford

Financial advice and Independent Examiner: Mr Stephen Price, Derby

Structure, Governance and Management

Fuel Macedonia, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, is a registered charity, number 1189286, with a constitution dated 10th April 2020. The Charity raises funds to support appropriate projects managed by carefully selected Local Partners and Partner Organisations who live and operate in the Republic of North Macedonia in line with the Constitution's Objects and in accordance with the Charity's Grant Making and Due Diligence policies.

New Trustees are appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the current Trustees and are appointed indefinitely. The Constitution provides for a minimum of 3 to a maximum of 7 Trustees, all appointed indefinitely. The current Board consists of 5 people who bring the following skills to the operation: the original vision, project and people management, web design and media production, English as a foreign language and other languages, finance (ex-bank manager) and passion for the cause and people.

At the trustees' meetings the Trustees review the current projects, the level of funding needed and available, and they look at ways of raising the profile of the charity to encourage more giving. They use these opportunities to consider additional grants to projects or the raising of funds for new projects suggested by the Charity's Local Partners or Partner Organisations.

On appointment new Trustees sign the Charity's 'Trustee Code of Conduct', are made aware of the current Local Partners and Partner Organisations through whom grants are distributed, and the current projects the Charity is supporting. They have access to, and are expected to read, the Charity's policies on grant making, due diligence, confidentiality, data protection and conflict of interests.

All Trustees give of their time freely and no Trustee remuneration has been paid. Details of Trustee expenses are disclosed in Note 1 of the accounts. Trustees are required to disclose all relevant interests and register them with the Chair of Trustees and, in accordance with the Charity's policy, withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises.

The major risk for the Charity is the potential failure of a funded project and the effects on the donor(s). Hence the Grant Making and Due Diligence Policies are key in the decision-making process for the agreement to raise funds for a grant or project, therefore, these policies are constantly under review to ensure that they are fit-for-purpose.

Objects and Activities for the public benefit

The object of the Charity is the prevention and relief of poverty and the relief of those in need by reason of financial hardship in the Republic of North Macedonia.

The Charity carries out these objects through (but is not limited to) the following activities:

- funding the provision of basic comfort needs to families in financial hardship, promoting and preserving good health by the provision of basic food and groceries (food parcels), fuel (gas and wood) for winter heating, and other support as the Trustees deemed fit,
- making grants available to Partner Organisations and Local Partners who are able to help the beneficiaries' welfare (mental health and wellbeing seminars).
- prevention of poverty through making grants available to local education establishments approved by the Trustees where the curriculum is appropriate to employment (the micro-school project is still under development and not yet being funded).
- funding sustainable projects that increase the living standards of the local residents (a 'food garden' where locals are instructed on growing methods and grow food that they can both use and sell).

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in considering future activities and the grant making policy for the year.

Grant making policy

The Charity has established its Grant Making Policy to clearly lay out the way the Charity works to achieve the Charity's objectives (see above). During this first year the trustees have been continually reviewing this policy to ensure it is fit for purpose to advance public benefit.

The Charity's beneficiaries are all in various degrees of financial hardship and, whilst most of this year's efforts have centred around the relief of poverty, the Trustees have been very pleased to see the sustainable garden (which is preventing poverty) handed over to joint management of the Roma people for whom it was intended. The beneficiaries have to be known by the Local Partners or Trustees and the Grant Making Policy has been worded to protect abuse of the donations received through Trustee contacts and site visits.

Executive Summary

We, as Trustees, have been very gratified by the response to the appeals we have made for the various projects that have been brought to us by our Local Partners and the following is a summary of our achievements and performance in our first full year of operation from 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022:

Relief of poverty & financial hardship

- Purchase of 81 months of heating for 30 households at a total cost of £4,542.
- Purchase of 28 food parcels for 13 households at a cost of £956
- Regular support of 2 families who live in very difficult situations
- Providing ongoing support for 2 homeless lads in Skopje

Beneficiaries' welfare

- Financially supporting 2 courses of wellbeing sessions for 9 men

Sustainable projects

- £1,405 for the continuation of the setup costs of the food garden in Shutka, Skopje
- £1,615 for 6 months ongoing support to the food garden until it became self-sustaining

Since the Charity's year end (31st March 2022) we have provided a further

- £2,450 for wood for 13 families
- £575 for food parcels for 7 families
- £357 for the seminars
- Grant of £951 to Macedonia's Food Bank to provide 3 months' rent for the warehouse to enable them to continue providing support to 1,500 families

Achievements and Performance

We are so grateful for the generosity of people in the UK (and, this year a few other countries too!) to the people of Macedonia that have made a real difference in the lives of many households. Trustees have had the privilege of meeting some of the beneficiaries who have expressed their gratitude and thanks towards the people who have given so freely – it was very humbling for us.

All the projects we have undertaken to support have been those suggested by our Local Partners and they are all ongoing projects from year to year. The following report gives more details of the projects for the time period from the inception of the Charity to the date of the report.

Relief of Poverty/Financial Hardship:

Winter Heating

In summary this project purchases either firewood or Calor gas, to heat homes during the worst 3 months of the year because the price of electricity for heating is considerable and the gathering of firewood is controlled by the government (there are wood police!).

We now have 2 Local Partners who regularly give us requests for wood: one in Tetovo/Gostivar, the other in Skopje. Last winter was particularly difficult as it was not only cold but there was the isolation of lockdown and lack of employment causing further hardship through evictions.

This year we were able to buy 81 months of heating for 30 households at a total cost of £4,542.



Food Parcels



Food parcels are never the same – they depend on the makeup and heritage of the family concerned and they vary in price. The parcels are meant to supplement the household's groceries, not completely provide for them. They average £40 per 'food parcel', can also contain cleaning and washing materials, would be for a family of 2 adults and 2 smaller children.

This year we were able to buy 28 food parcels for 13 households (2 of which have been on-going support for families in particularly difficult situations), at a cost of £956.

We have been able to fund a further 5 food parcels for 5 families, in addition to the 2 regulars, at a cost of £574.

Feeding the Homeless in Skopje

This pilot project did not continue during this year as the Local Partner sought other ways of meeting people's needs. We did however, agree to provide a hot meal a day for a couple of rough sleeping homeless lads. Our Local Partner and we met with a restaurateur local to the lads' sleeping place and he agreed to supply the meals at a good price and added a couple of weeks at his own cost to the deal. This ended as the restaurant had to closed for the winter after the 'deal' had finished.

We have been able to give him £234 which was used in support these young men who we believe are now in a hostel in Skopje and in a far better situation.

Beneficiaries' Welfare:

Wellbeing sessions

These are run by our Local Partner in Tetovo, who has a venue and brought in speakers where necessary. The meetings were hindered by the pandemic situation and the government restrictions in force they restarted as soon as the restrictions were lifted due to the enthusiasm of the Local Partner and the participants.

These seminars/courses have been funded by *Fuel Macedonia*, at a cost of £672, and a further £357 to the end of October this year.

We have also been able to fund some specific 'projects' for individuals who have had specific needs.

Sustainable Projects:

Shutka Food Garden

This project, set up to *"establish a sustainable local food garden which will engage with the community to provide them with supplemental food to meet their physical needs"*, was supported by *Fuel Macedonia* in the garden's set-up costs and then running costs for 6 months (costing £3,020). The running costs support ended in December 2021 and the garden is now being run by the local Roma people with the support of the Project Leaders.

Food Bank of Macedonia

Fuel Macedonia has been able to provide 3 months' rent (costing £951) for this valuable organisation that reaches approximately 1,500 households a year throughout Macedonia. We have established a working protocol with the Food Bank so that our Local Partners, having met with the Food Bank can now put in requests for food boxes too.

Financial review

The Charity depends on donations to enable grants to be given. The Charity has no investments or endowments to provide a steady income. Therefore, each new project has to be marketed and have funds raised for it. No 'promises' of grants are given for which funds have not already been received or promised.

The Charity has no regular support or governance costs and, therefore, there are no reserves.

Plans for the future

The year's achievements are a testimony to the generosity of the public responding to a very real need in another country.

The Trustees have been actively developing their relationships with, and encouraging the activities of, all the Local Partners through another year of restrictions and difficult situations arising from the global pandemic, which has caused additional financial hardship to many people in Macedonia, particularly through loss of employment.

We are aiming to continue our 'winter aid' of heating materials and food parcels for families in need and to promote these projects to our Local Partners in Tetovo, Skopje and Matka so that we can increase the circle of beneficiaries.

We have been very pleased to see the success of the Food Garden project in becoming largely self-sustaining. The Project Leaders have actioned their plans to set up more food gardens in and around Skopje and these are currently underway

The IT micro-school is still a project that is very dear to our hearts in *Fuel Macedonia* as it will enable young people to obtain employable skills and the possibility of employment too as the school will have firms already lined up for their students. Currently young people very often look for work abroad, many working in the hospitality industry once having obtained their degrees in Macedonia. We want to see good employment possibilities available in their own country and as this project was first put together by a Macedonian national it has a good chance of success. We know that the originator, Veton Vela is still very keen to get the micro-school(s) started and we are looking forward to working with him when the project starts.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires trustee(s) to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charity Commission's 'Charities Statement of Recommended Practice';
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ascertain to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Constitution. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included on the Charity's website.

Approved by the Trustees on 15th November 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Ian Paul Coppeard	Daniel William Parker
Position	Chair of Trustees	Trustee
Date	15/11/2022	

Fuel Macedonia
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 01/04/2021 to 31/03/2022

Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
Receipts					
Donations for Projects	11,344	-	-	11,344	6,692
Donations for Charity Overheads	427	-	-	427	508
Gift Aid reclaimed	1,147	-	-	1,147	525
Subtotal Receipts	12,918	-	-	12,918	7,726
Asset and investment sales					
None	-	-	-	-	
Total receipts	12,918	-	-	12,918	7,726
Payments					
Grants for Food Parcels	956	-	-	956	1,679
Grants for Winter Heating	4,543	-	-	4,543	2,313
Grants to Feed Homeless in Skopje	234	-	-	234	150
Grants for Shutka Food Garden	3,020	-	-	3,020	450
Grant for the Food Bank	951	-	-	951	
Wellbeing Sessions	672	-	-	672	515
Miscellaneous Grants (note 2)	1,415	-	-	1,415	868
Charity costs spent in Macedonia	166	-	-	166	267
Subtotal payments in Macedonia	11,957	-	-	11,957	6,243
Cost of Grants in exchange rate fees	104	-	-	104	30
Cost of Donations on NowDonate platform	19	-	-	19	23
Costs incurred in UK for Clothing sent (note 3)	-	-	-	-	113
Charity running costs not in Macedonia	322	-	-	322	619
Subtotal all Payments	12,401	-	-	12,401	7,027

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
Asset and investment purchases					
None	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	12,401	-	-	12,401	7,027
Net of receipts & payments	517	-	-	517	699
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds from last year end	1,440	-	-	1,440	741
Cash funds this year end	1,957	-	-	1,957	1,440

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
Cash funds	Current Account	1,957	-	-
	Total cash funds	1,957	-	-
Other monetary assets	Gift aid reclaim	50	-	-
Investment assets	None			
Assets retained for the charity's own use	None			
Liabilities	None			

Notes to the Accounts

1. Trustee expenses have only been for reimbursement of items needed to run the charity
2. Miscellaneous grants are those where an individual need is found and responded to and includes financial assistance for funeral costs and dental bills. Funds are raised specifically for these purposes.
3. Donated clothes were shipped out to Macedonia and these were the shipping costs

FUEL MACEDONIA

England & Wales - Charity number 1189286

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts

Year ending: Incorporation to 31st March 2021

Charity Number: 1189286

Report Date: September 2021

Reference and Administration

Name: Fuel Macedonia

Number: 1189286

Principle Office: 3 Greenbanks, Cranham, Upminster RM14 3YR

Names of Trustees of the Charity

IP Coppeard, Chair of Trustees

D Parker

D Woodward

L Smith

M Smith

Names & Addresses of Advisors

Bank: Metro Bank, Romford

Financial advice and Independent Examiner: Mr Stephen Price, Derby

Structure, Governance and Management

Fuel Macedonia, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, is a registered charity, number 1189286, with a constitution dated 10th April 2020. The Charity raises funds to support appropriate projects managed by carefully selected Local Partners and Partner Organisations who live and operate in the Republic of North Macedonia in line with the Constitution's Objects and in accordance with the Charity's Grant Making and Due Diligence policies.

New Trustees are appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the current Trustees and are appointed indefinitely. The Constitution provides for a minimum of 3 to a maximum of 7 Trustees, all appointed indefinitely. The current Board consists of 5 people who bring the following skills to the operation: the original vision, project and people management, web design and media production, English as a foreign language and other languages, finance (ex-bank manager) and passion for the cause and people.

At the 6 weekly trustees' meetings the Trustees review the current projects, the level of funding needed and available, and they look at ways of raising the profile of the charity to encourage more giving. They use these opportunities to consider additional grants to projects or the raising of funds for new projects suggested by the Charity's Local Partners or Partner Organisations.

On appointment new Trustees sign the Charity's 'Trustee Code of Conduct', are made aware of the current Local Partners and Partner Organisations through whom grants are distributed, and the current projects the Charity is supporting. They have access to, and are expected to read, the Charity's policies on grant making, due diligence, confidentiality, data protection and conflict of interests.

All Trustees give of their time freely and no Trustee remuneration has been paid. Details of Trustee expenses are disclosed in Note 1 of the accounts. Trustees are required to disclose all relevant interests and register them with the Chair of Trustees and, in accordance with the Charity's policy, withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises.

The major risk for the Charity is the potential failure of a funded project and the effects on the donor(s). Hence the Grant Making and Due Diligence Policies are key in the decision-making process for the agreement to raise funds for a grant or project, therefore, these policies are constantly under review to ensure that they are fit-for-purpose.

Objects and Activities for the public benefit

The object of the Charity is the prevention and relief of poverty and the relief of those in need by reason of financial hardship in the Republic of North Macedonia.

The Charity carries out these objects through (but is not limited to) the following activities:

- funding the provision of basic comfort needs to families in financial hardship, promoting and preserving good health by the provision of basic food and groceries (food parcels), fuel (gas and wood) for winter heating, and other support as the Trustees deemed fit,
- making grants available to Partner Organisations and Local Partners who are able to help the beneficiaries' welfare (mental health and wellbeing seminars).
- prevention of poverty through making grants available to local education establishments approved by the Trustees where the curriculum is appropriate to employment (the micro-school project is still under development and not yet being funded).
- funding sustainable projects that increase the living standards of the local residents (a 'food garden' where locals are instructed on growing methods and grow food that they can both use and sell).

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in considering future activities and the grant making policy for the year.

Grant making policy

The Charity has established its Grant Making Policy to clearly lay out the way the Charity works to achieve the Charity's objectives (see above). During this first year the trustees have been continually reviewing this policy to ensure it is fit for purpose to advance public benefit.

The Charity's beneficiaries are all in various degrees of financial hardship and, whilst most of this year's efforts have centred around the relief of poverty, the Trustees are very excited about the sustainable garden where we can, to some degree, look at preventing poverty. The beneficiaries have to be known by the Local Partners or Trustees and the Grant Making Policy has been worded to protect abuse of the donations received through Trustee contacts and site visits.

Executive Summary

We, as Trustees, have been very gratified by the response to the appeals we have made for the various projects that have been brought to us by our Local Partners and the following is a summary of our achievements and performance in our first 11 months of operation to 31st March 2021 as a registered Charity:

Relief of poverty & financial hardship

- Purchase of 41 months of heating for 18 households at a total cost of £2,313.
- Purchase of 33 food parcels for 26 households at a cost of £1,678
- Regular support of 1 family who have a very difficult situation
- Providing immediate support for 9 different homeless situations in Skopje

Beneficiaries' welfare

- Financially supporting a course of wellbeing sessions for 12 men

Sustainable projects

- £450 for the setup of a food garden that will provide vegetables for local families in Shutka, Skopje

Since the Charity's year end (31st March 2021) we have provided a further

- £2,160 has been granted to the food garden
- £241 for food parcels
- £169 for the seminars

Achievements and Performance

We are so grateful for the generosity of people in the UK towards the people of Macedonia that have made a real difference in the lives of many households. Trustees have had the privilege of meeting some of the beneficiaries who have expressed their gratitude and thanks towards the people who have given so freely – it was very humbling for us.

All the projects we have undertaken to support have been those suggested by our Local Partners and they are all ongoing projects from year to year. The following report gives more details of the projects for the time period from the inception of the Charity to the date of the report.

Relief of Poverty/Financial Hardship:

Winter Heating

This has to be the starting place as it is what caused us to start the charity in the first place: our Local Partner in Tetovo had seen the hardship of people around him and wanted to raise €1,000 to enable 5 families to heat their homes during the winter. This would be through the purchase of either firewood or Calor gas, to heat homes during the worst months of the year because the price of electricity for heating was/is considerable and the gathering of firewood is also controlled (there are wood police!).

We got alongside the Local Partner and were able to raise over and above what he had requested. As people were keen to give, we looked to formalise the arrangement and expand into food parcels too.

This year we were able to buy 41 months of heating for 18 households at a total cost of £2,313.



Food Parcels



Food parcels are never the same – they depend on the makeup and heritage of the family concerned and they vary in price. The parcels are meant to supplement the household's groceries, not completely provide for them. They average £40 per 'food parcel', which will also contain cleaning and washing materials, would be for a family of 2 adults and 2 smaller children.

This year we were able to buy 33 food parcels for 26 households (1 of which has been an on-going support as the family have a very difficult situation), at a cost of £1,678.

During the months since the end of the financial year the Trustees have agreed to continue supporting 2 situations on a monthly basis – the current pandemic having exacerbated both situations. We have been able to fund a further 8 food parcels for 6 families, 2 of these are the regular support, at a cost of £241.

Feeding the Homeless in Skopje

This was a pilot project in the capital city where many people gather for help. Our Local Partner in Skopje has a real heart for the disadvantaged and was going out and spending his own money to buy meals for those he found on the streets. We heard of this and suggested an immediate emergency funding for him (as he had no job due to the 2020 pandemic) while we considered with him what could be done for this situation.

We have been able to give him £150 which was used in supporting at least 9 different situations.

Beneficiaries' Welfare:

Wellbeing sessions

Various courses and seminars that are free to attend have been led in the community by our Local Partner in Tetovo, who has arranged venues and speakers. These meetings have been hindered by the pandemic situation and the government restrictions in force but the Local Partner has been able to meet regularly with the participants of the seminars/courses and provide much needed 1-2-1 encouragement to them.

These seminars/courses have been funded by *Fuel Macedonia*, at a cost during the first 11 months of £515, and a further £169 to September this year.

We have also been able to fund some specific 'projects' for individuals who have had specific needs.

Sustainable Projects:

Shutka Food Garden

This project has been set up to *"establish a sustainable local food garden which will engage with the community to provide them with supplemental food to meet their physical needs. It will require their physical work/input/maintenance to develop it into a long-term program within the community."* (This has been copied from the Project Leader's proposal to the British Embassy, Skopje when asking for a grant to purchase the greenhouse required).

In March 2021 the 40metre greenhouse (picture opposite) was under construction thanks to the British Embassy grant.

Fuel Macedonia was able to award an initial grant of £450 towards the set-up costs of the garden, which it

is hoped will feed at least 15 families – maybe more. This will depend on the uptake from the community and the growing conditions.

Since the year end we have had discussions with the project leaders about partnering with another funder to cover the monthly running costs of the project until it becomes self-sufficient. We have agreed to this funding for the first 6 months when we will review the project with the project leaders.

The picture to the left was taken at the open day in June 2021.



There have also been 2 further grants of £1,404 towards setting up the greenhouse and ensuring it runs well. The monthly costs are €300 (approx. £260).

Financial review

The Charity depends on donations to enable grants to be given. The Charity has no investments or endowments to provide a steady income. Therefore, each new project has to be marketed and have funds raised for it. No 'promises' of grants are given for which funds have not already been received or promised.

The Charity has no regular support or governance costs and, therefore, there are no reserves.

Plans for the future

The year's achievements are a testimony to the generosity of the public responding to a very real need in another country.

The Trustees have been actively developing their relationships with, and encouraging the activities of, the Local Partners through this difficult season (pandemic), which has caused additional financial hardship of many people in Macedonia, particularly through loss of employment.

We are aiming to continue our 'winter aid' of heating materials and food parcels for families in need and to promote these projects to our Local Partners in Tetovo, Skopje, Matka and Shutka so that we can increase the circle of beneficiaries.

The Food Garden is an exciting project and we are hoping that we can provide the funding to enable it to become self-sustaining in a year or so. The Project Leaders have very ambitious plans to set up more food gardens in and around Skopje. The project could also involve volunteer teams from the UK lending help too.

We mentioned the IT micro-school above and this is still a project that is very dear to our hearts in *Fuel Macedonia* as it will enable young people to obtain employable skills and the possibility of employment too as the school will have firms already lined up for their students. Currently young people very often look for work abroad, many working in the hospitality industry once having obtained their degrees in Macedonia. We want to see good employment possibilities available in their own country and as this project was first put together by a Macedonian national it has a good chance of success. We look forward to working with this project when it starts.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires trustee(s) to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charity Commission's 'Charities Statement of Recommended Practice';
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ascertain to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Constitution. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included on the Charity's website.

Approved by the Trustees on 9th September 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Ian Paul Coppeard	Daniel William Parker
Position	Chair of Trustees	Trustee
Date	9/9/2021	

Fuel Macedonia
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021

Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
Receipts					
Donations for Projects	6,692	-	-	6,692	-
Donations for Charity Overheads	508	-	-	508	-
Gift Aid reclaimed	525	-	-	525	-
Subtotal Receipts	7,726	-	-	7,726	-
Asset and investment sales					
None	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	7,726	-	-	7,726	-
Payments					
Grants for Food Parcels	1,679	-	-	1,679	-
Grants for Winter Heating	2,313	-	-	2,313	-
Grants to Feed Homeless in Skopje	150	-	-	150	-
Grants for Shutka Food Garden	450	-	-	450	-
Wellbeing Sessions	515	-	-	515	-
Miscellaneous Grants (note 2)	868	-	-	868	-
Charity costs spent in Macedonia	267	-	-	267	-
Subtotal payments in Macedonia	6,243	-	-	6,243	-
Cost of Grants in exchange rate fees	30	-	-	30	-
Cost of Donations on NowDonate platform	23	-	-	23	-
Costs incurred in UK for Clothing sent (note 3)	113	-	-	113	-
Charity running costs not in Macedonia	619	-	-	619	-
Subtotal all Payments	7,027	-	-	7,027	-

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
Asset and investment purchases					
None	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	7,027	-	-	7,027	-
Net of receipts & payments	699	-	-	699	-
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds to start					
Charity	741	-	-	741	-
Cash funds this year end	1,440	-	-	1,440	-

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
Cash funds	Current Account	1,440	-	-
	Total cash funds	1,440	-	-
Other monetary assets	Gift aid reclaim	292	-	-
Investment assets	None			
Assets retained for the charity's own use	None			
Liabilities	None			

Notes to the Accounts

1. Trustee expenses have only been for reimbursement of items needed to run the charity
2. Miscellaneous grants are those where an individual need is found and responded to and includes financial assistance for funeral costs and dental bills. Funds are raised specifically for these purposes.
3. Donated clothes were shipped out to Macedonia and these were the shipping costs