



Trustees Annual Report
& Financial Statement
1st April 2021 - 31st March 2022

Charity Commission
Registraion No. 1189561

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OUR MISSION

Humanitarian aid whatever it takes!

Aiming to empower people who are displaced by involving them in the decision-making processes to the provision of support, we at Refugee Biriyani & Bananas provide urgent aid and basic necessities with dignity and equity.

We advocate for and share stories of, or from, the people we support; we aim to raise awareness and be a voice.

We volunteer to fill gaps in humanitarian care, boosting morale and sustaining those who are forcibly displaced on their journeys.



OUR VALUES

EMPOWERMENT

INCLUSION

VOICE

EQUITY

DIGNITY

FAMILY

CHARITY INFORMATION

Trustees on 31st March 2022

Ruhi Akhtar - Chair of Trustees

Rhian Planchant - Treasurer

Angela Curry

Deborah Flounders

Jane Elizabeth Hetherington

Registered Address

52 Clifton Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE4 8DQ

Constitution

Registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in England and Wales, no. 1189561

Independent Examiner

Amsel Page von Spreckelsen

Blackbird Charity Finance

Shoreham-by-Sea, United Kingdom

Bank

The Co-operative Bank p.l.c.

P.O. Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester, M60 4EP

Website: www.refugeebiriyaniбанanas.org

Facebook: RefugeeBiriyanibанanas

Instagram : Refugee_biriyaniбанanas

Twitter : RBBOrganisation

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Year Ending 31st March 2022

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report and financial statement for the year ended 31st March 2022. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting principles set out by the Charity Commission and comply with the charity's constitution.

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law of the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. This must 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 in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed.

ABOUT US

Background

Refugee Biryani & Bananas (RBB) was formed initially as a grassroots movement in response to the escalation of the Syrian refugee crisis in 2015. They were a group of friends who decided to cook and distribute 2,500 portions of biriyani and bananas for all residents of the unofficial refugee camp in Dunkirk, Northern France.

When the group returned home, they felt that could not turn their backs on the people affected by the refugee crisis, and they knew they had to continue to help. They then decided to form a grassroots organisation called Refugee Biryani & Bananas (RBB) after 'The Biryani Mission.' In an effort to support some of the 82.4 million people currently displaced globally (UNHCR), RBB became a registered charity on 19th May 2020 and aims to support vulnerable people worldwide, including but not limited to:

- Victims of War
- Oppression
- Political Persecution
- Poverty
- Natural Disaster
- Refugees and Asylum Seekers
- Displaced People
- The Homeless

Who We Are

A female and community-led project.

Core team members, advisors and ambassadors from all backgrounds, including those with lived experience of the migratory pathway & from black, asian, minority and ethnic communities.

A field team consisting of 85% people from the refugee and asylum seeking community, currently representing Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, Gambia, Ethiopia, Palestine and Yemen.

WHERE WE ARE

Since September 2015, RBB has been involved in providing humanitarian assistance to displaced people residing in refugee and IDP camps, squats and other unstable settlements along the migratory pathway at the following locations:

France: Calais, Dunkirk & Paris

Greece: Idomeni Camp, Thessaloniki, Athens, Lavrio, Samos & Chios

Northern Iraq: Duhok

Serbia: Belgrade Barracks

Bosnia & Herzegovina - Croatia Border: Vucjak Camp

Turkey: Istanbul

Poland, Belarus & Lithuania Border

Ukraine Border



This annual report highlights our activities in the second year as a registered charity. It shares where our funds come from and the difference it is making in the lives of those we are supporting.

There will be insights from the RBB Family and our community as we try to do our part in accompanying and supporting people during a humanitarian crisis.

WHAT WE DO

This year, we expanded our operations to Athens, whilst continuing to support primarily people who are displaced on the Greek Island of Chios.

In November 2021, we also travelled to the borders of Poland, Belarus and Lithuania to assess the situation for thousands of people stuck at the border there, to provide humanitarian aid, and to raise awareness.

In March 2022, we continued our emergency response and travelled to the Polish-Ukrainian border to assist those affected by the war in Ukraine.

We assess needs and communicate with affected populations as well as colleagues on the ground to identify priority gaps in humanitarian care. We specialise in equitable and dignified mass aid distributions of food items and non-food items. To achieve these, we have been able to develop systems that adapt to the different crisis zones we operate in, where the needs and dynamics can vary greatly.

Food Insecurity Case Study 1 Quote:



"My brothers and I collect cardboard from trash in the streets of Athens and we sell it for around 10-15 Euros after working eight hours. There are eight people in our family and we have to do this otherwise our family will go hungry." - Yusuf is 12 years old from Afghanistan.

As well as population wide distributions, we also have an individual, person-centred care approach. We implement our humanitarian efforts after liaising closely with those we work with and for, always ensuring continuity and building deep trust.

As such, our support over the past year has ranged from supporting funerals for those who have sadly died on the island, supporting the community with transportation, assisting with funeral arrangements following boat capsizes, distributing face masks and hand sanitiser as part of an urgent COVID-19 response, and providing sleeping bags and basic necessities to those released from quarantine to Vial Camp, Chios.

Our advocacy efforts include campaigning for human rights and against the violations faced by those we are supporting. By speaking out, we aim to create positive social changes within the world we live in, influencing the general public, lobbying politicians and other key decision-makers.

Food is one of the most requested and urgently needed aid item by those displaced in Greece and therefore, **RBB's Food Security with Dignity Project** has been our primary focus.

RBB Helpline Example Distress Messages Received

Hello angel..
I'm in Germany and safe.
But I would like to tell you about my sister in Vial and maybe you can help.
They have cut her food and she is being hungry most of the time.
Do you think you can send her some food baskets for her and her boyfriend to support?

Hi
I want to know
if you were
you distribute
food
date
rice
Like this.
tomorrow
Ramadan
I have nothing.

Hello, my sister, how are you? We are a family of seven people, mother, father, and five children. My condition is extremely difficult. I don't have a salary. My son's illnesses. I suffer from severe asthma. My wife is very sick, I mean, can I help me with foodstuffs. I don't have food and diapers. Please help. On the day I need help, may God protect you and protect you, Lord

The food is ready-made meals, rice, some cooking and plants But the food is not cooked well and was not good sometimes but we eat it because we need it

Apart from that, I am in a caravan that does not have heating, and the caravan has 9 people, and it is very small, and the people are

I'm new to Elephants and I don't have anything I don't have food, I don't have sleep, I don't have clothes, I don't have any money, I'm just in a caravan and I receive my food from the kitchen and clothes are the same from the first time I arrived here


I just have a bed and put a cover on it

I have no food for lunch at all. Madam, I can not bear it for two weeks or so, please dear dear.

Ok, we want food to see, because the food is finished, we are picking up bread from the street, I will send you a picture to see

But I have no food, my salary has stopped for young children
I want help for my children, I cannot buy food

We are going to start another distribution in a few weeks



STRUCTURE & GOVERNANCE

During this year, RBB has been governed by five charity trustees each in place for the full term. Our constitution provides for a minimum of three trustees. New trustees can be appointed by existing trustees and can serve for three years and any charity trustee is eligible for reappointment.

Upon appointment, trustees offer their expertise and time freely. No trustee received any remuneration during this period.

Trustees met via video call over the previous year as indicated by our constitution. Face to face meetings were not possible due to Coronavirus pandemic and for safety measures. All meetings were chaired and minutes recorded by the trustees. In between meetings, trustees communicate regularly using email, WhatsApp and Facebook Messenger to keep each other up to date on projects and to approve or decline projects and expenditures.

Our high-level strategy and areas of activity are reviewed on an ongoing basis due to the fast-changing nature of the crisis for displaced people and sudden emergencies requiring a flexible and needs-based approach.

Food Insecurity Case Study 2

Quote:



"I cannot receive food as I received refugee status in 2019. The food served in camp is inedible, however, I wait at the end of the food line to see if there is any bread and water left, that they might give us. 95% of the time after waiting two hours, there is none left. I then have no choice but to go and beg other people to see if they can spare me some of the what they received."

Living in a tent in Vial Camp, a 21-year-old single man from Yemen is unable to work, due to the poor job market and the fact his Greek ID has expired.

CHAIRPERSON & FOUNDER'S STATEMENT



I am proud to introduce the Refugee Biriyani & Bananas April 2021 - March 2022 annual accounts on behalf of our team.

In spite of ongoing challenges this year, we continued to work towards our goals to advocate for and support the people within our population of care. The people we are supporting in Greece (our base) have arrived from countries such as Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq, Palestine, Yemen, Pakistan as well as East, West and Sub-Saharan Africa (Cameroon, Ghana, Nigeria, Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Sudan, and Somalia).

For a large part of this financial year, we were subject to restrictions due to Covid-19 pandemic and therefore had to adapt our efforts around this. The people we were supporting also struggled. Already residing in a precarious environment, lockdown meant they were further unable to readily access basic life resources or support from NGOs.

As people left Chios Island and those able to be registered upon arrival reduced, we identified capacity to support on the mainland in Athens. We also travelled to the borders of Poland, Belarus and Lithuania border and continued to support these sites remotely directing volunteers, aid and other resources to those on the ground.

Towards the end of the year we decided to focus on strengthening our Board of Trustees as well as planning to appoint our first salaried employee. This growth and development phase of RBB aims to:

- Improve aid provision and the effectiveness of our advocacy and social awareness efforts
- Execute a long-term, sustainable, organisational model with high staff wellbeing, improved governance, reporting, accountability, policies, safeguarding and operational procedures.

During this year our key projects were:

- The Brothers Campaign - Providing support and advocating for displaced males who are single and from family units, sometimes neglected in aid work.
- Food security and nutrition with dignity.
- The Prison Run - Supporting and advocating for asylum seekers who are in detention or recently released from detention.
- Additional support for people whose governmental allowances have been cut after receiving refugee status or a second rejection on their asylum application.
- Support during crises including fires in camp and extreme weather.
- Advocacy efforts in relation to pushbacks, criminalisation of aid workers, criminalisation of people on the move, food insecurity and reception and identification centre conditions.

None of this would have been possible without the continued trust and support of our partners and donors, to whom I would like to extend my gratitude. Additionally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the RBB team for their commitment and resilience and most importantly, on behalf of RBB, I would like to thank the community we are supporting for trusting us and allowing us to be part of their journey and accompanying us in all that we do. We pledge to continue and improve our efforts in the upcoming year.

Ruhi Akhtar



Chairperson

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Thank you to everyone who donated to us, raised funds for us, volunteered with us remotely or in the field, sent us aid, shared our social media posts and gave us the encouragement to keep going. Special THANKS to all those from the asylum-seeking community who volunteered with us despite being in a difficult situation themselves.

A comprehensive financial overview is included after this section in the Accountants Independent Examination.

Together we were able to support approximately 10,000 people over all sites, with some people receiving ongoing care where appropriate and others as a one time if they were on the move. Here are some of our key achievement and examples of the difference we were able to make with your monetary and material donations combined:

FOOD SECURITY WITH DIGNITY



We purchased £93,696.28 of Food Supplies and £5,401 of Hygiene Products for Monthly Distributions in Chios



In total **16,979** Food & Hygiene Packs were distributed.
The average number of items per pack was **14** products, with
the range being between **5** items and **22** items per pack.

The provision of aid items is decided after liaising with the community of support.

The packs include nutrient-dense and long-lasting staple foodstuffs, as well as specially chosen items by the people themselves, such as Pepsi (a hot favourite!) and dates (popular in Middle Eastern and South Asian cultures).

Although the following table is not exhaustive of all food and hygiene products within the year, it gives an insight into some of the popular items and quantities distributed, only possible with your support.

Item	Individual Unit Size	Total Distributed
Sunflower Oil	1 Litre	12,228 Bottles
Basmati Rice	1 KG	9,800 Packs
Milk	1 Litre	7,776 Cartons
Pulses and Beans	1 KG	8.867 Tins
Pepsi	1.5 Litre	2,498 Bottles
Box of Eggs	6 Eggs	10,566 Eggs
Fruit and Vegetables Pack	4 KG	4.6 Tonnes Mixed
Tinned Tomatoes	450 Grams	111,058 Tins
Tinned Tuna / Sardines	150 Grams	9,554 Tins
Dates	1 KG	7,423 Packs
Dishwashing Liquid	0.75 Litres	1,231 Bottles
Clothes Washing Powder	500 Grams	3,338 Boxes
Reusable Face Masks	1 Piece	35,000 Masks

Recent feedback received after a food distribution



← خالد replied to himself



This is a natural orange juice from the orange in the food package

21:57

21:24



← خالد replied to himself



Beautiful and special dinner today after the rest of my caravan friends received the food parcel

A lovely message from a resident of Vial Camp leaving Chios

Okay but I'm the one that supposed to say thanks to you guys for everything you have done for us here, since I come you guys helped us great 👍 I really appreciate 😊 thanks once again.

15:35



OTHER KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



We supported the funeral services of 5 people. One woman and two children sadly died as their boat capsized upon arriving to Chios. One other man and woman passed away whilst in the asylum seeking process in Chios.

With donated funds we bought flowers, white cloth, towels, hand sanitiser and water cannisters so that the community could hold their culture-appropriate funeral service. We also transported community members from the camp to attend.



£3,962.97 worth of shopping vouchers were distributed to families and individuals in Athens. Lunch items and refreshments were provided with each of these distributions for recipients.



1097 Backpacks and 307 Suitcases (small, medium and large sizes) were provided to over 2000 people leaving the island to ease their travels and to store their belongings whilst living in Vial Camp.



282 baby packs were distributed consisting of first stage solid baby food. Each pack contained 60 portions of 400g of baby food which was two portions per day for the entire month per baby. The numbers of babies supported each month varied however at most we provided for 63 babies in one month.



With the baby food we also provided instruction cards, storage boxes to protect the items from snakes and rats, baby spoons and also heavy duty reusable bags to support parents storage concerns often needing extra for infants.



We volunteered at the Poland, Belarus and Lithuania border and bought emergency supplies for people forced to spend the night in the forest in frozen condition. This included extreme cold weather suitable sleeping bags, medical aid, food, water, backpacks, power banks, winter clothing, thermal wear and insulation blankets.



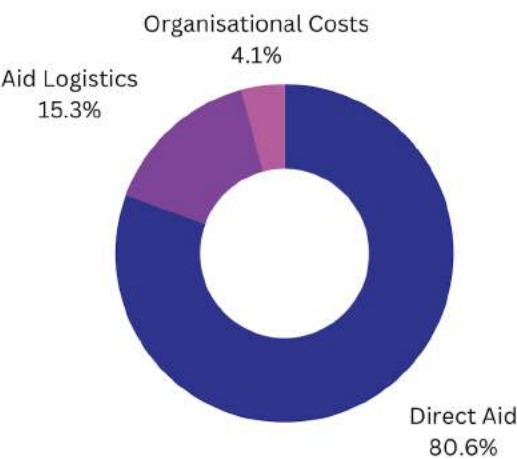
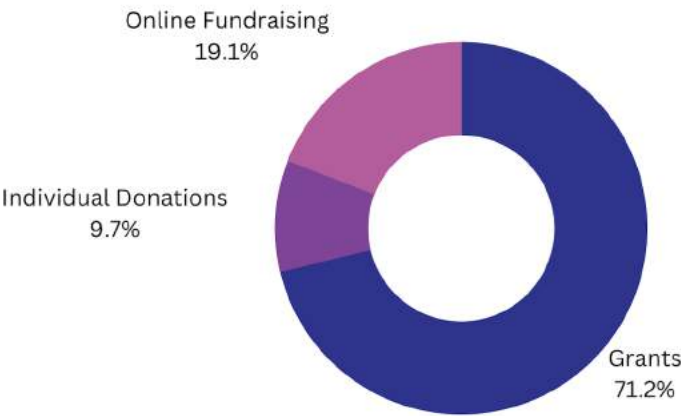
In response to the war in Ukraine, we went to Warsaw and then the Polish border points of Rawa Ruska-Hebrenne, Medyka, Ustrzyki Dolne and the associated refugee reception centres in these areas. We then volunteered at Shehyni in Ukraine where we supported local volunteers with transportation for people fleeing the war and bought and collected 15 pallets worth of aid which was transported across the border by volunteers on foot by trolley. We also helped organisations there with distributions and warehouse management.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

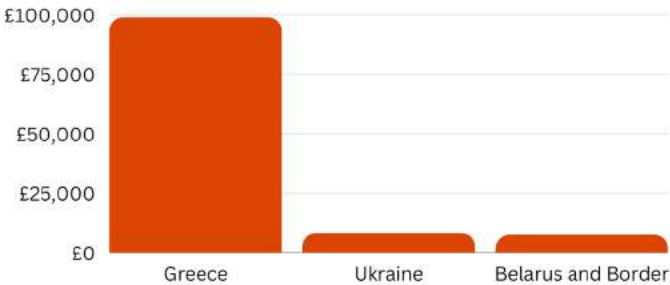
This year, we've been able to increase our support for the asylum-seeking community in Greece and further afield thanks to the support from hundreds of individuals as well as from foundations. Here is an overview of our financial income and expenditure. A full report on our funds is available as part of the Independent Examination.

Where our funds came from



How we spent our funds

Where we spent our funds



	2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022
Income	£119,277	£210,951 +77%
Expenditure	£105,590	£136,944 +31%

In perspective



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Refugee Biryani and Bananas CIO

On accounts for the year
ended

31/03/2022

Charity no
(if any)

1189561

Set out on pages

3-4

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/03/2022**.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

10/11/2022

Name:

Amsel Page von Spreckelsen

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

CIMA DipMA

Address:

92 Melbourne Road, Eastbourne BN22 8BA

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Refugee Biriyani and Bananas CIO

No (if any)
1189561

Receipts and payments accounts



CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 01/04/2021	To	Period end date 31/03/2022
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants	51,275	97,911	-	149,186	39,210
Individual Donations	19,457	971	-	20,427	9,600
Online Fundraising	37,660	-	-	37,660	70,467
Individuals Fundraising for RBB	2,898	780	-	3,678	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	111,290	99,661	-	210,951	119,277
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	111,290	99,661	-	210,951	119,277
A3 Payments					
Aid - Direct Costs	22,786	87,942	-	110,728	78,036
Freight, Transportation & Fuel Costs	3,616	391	-	4,006	9,209
Storage & Warehousing	3,492	-	-	3,492	4,929
Team Expenses - Travel, Accommodation and Stipends	9,898	3,615	-	13,513	8,733
Overheads and Administration	5,205	-	-	5,205	4,683
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	44,996	91,948	-	136,944	105,590
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Computer Equipment	684	-	-	684	625
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	684	-	-	684	625
Total payments	45,680	91,948	-	137,628	106,215
Net of receipts/(payments)	65,610	7,713	-	73,323	13,062
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	10,465	2,597	-	13,062	-
Cash funds this year end	76,075	10,310	-	86,385	13,062

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Co-Operative Current Account	76,075	10,310	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	76,075	10,310	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	VIS INT'L 0065323769		286	191
	AMAZON.CO.UK*E72KH AMAZON.CO.UK		684	551
	ASUS VivoBook M513UA			
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Independent Examination Fee		600	01 November 2022
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	 Thomas John Snape (Nov 10, 2022 17:55 GMT)	Thomas John Snape	Nov 10, 2022	
		Jacob Warn	Nov 10, 2022	











Independent_Examiners Report and Accounts RBB

Final Audit Report

2022-11-10

Created:	2022-11-10
By:	Amsel von Spreckelsen (amsel@bcfconsulting.co.uk)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAUqTj0WKo1_ut2dSqJ2NUw9pFQAzOV7fb

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-  Signer tomjsnape@gmail.com entered name at signing as Thomas John Snape
2022-11-10 - 5:55:30 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Thomas John Snape (tomjsnape@gmail.com)
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2022-11-10 - 8:56:19 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Jacob Warn (hello@jacobwarn.com)
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