

# **Bradford African Community**

Charity number 1191374

## **Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025**



# **Bradford African Community**

## **Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025**

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**Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO**

# **Bradford African Community**

## **Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2025**

### **Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors**

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Yassin Toyi	Chair	Appointed 4 January 2025
Catherine Kembabazi		
Mangala Hussein		Resigned 16 April 2024
Faith Nyambane		
Ismail Adam		Appointed 29 April 2024
<b>Charity number</b>	1191374	Registered in England and Wales

<b>Registered and principal address</b>	<b>Bankers</b>
Quaker Meeting House	Lloyds TSB Bank plc
Russell Street	Ariel House
Bradford	2138 Coventry Road
BD5 OJB	Birmingham B26 3JW

### **Independent examiner**

Rhys North ACA

### **West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO**

Stringer House  
34 Lupton Street  
Leeds  
LS10 2QW

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

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) foundation formed on 21 September 2020 and is governed by a constitution.

### **Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees**

The trustees of the charity are appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

# Bradford African Community

## Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

### Objectives and activities

#### The charity's objects

To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people, in particular (but without limitation) African refugees and asylum seekers residing in Bradford and Yorkshire, from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society through:

- a Education and training in the English language;
- b Providing workshops/courses, homework support classes and general support;
- c Social and recreational facilities and events involving the local community directed to promoting social inclusion. For the purpose of this clause 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or part of society, as a result of being a member of a socially and economically deprived community.

The prevention or relief of poverty in Africa by providing: grants, items and services to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisation's working to prevent or relieve poverty.

#### Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the promotion of social inclusion.

#### Achievements and performance

Activities	Supported and engaged participants/attendees
Drop-in-centre	2288
Remotely supported	275
Homework Club session	352
ESOL for beginners/ English conversation Class	687
B1	121
Sewing Academy	252
Watoto Kwanza (Children First & Great Little Mind)	106
Visitors	73
Trips to get know the country	171
HAF2024	287
Wellbeing Sessions	135
Multi-cultural mixing/Get-Together	426

The table above shows the number of individuals who visited and attended Bradford Community centre for learning and to seek support with issues that impact their daily lives. They took part in various activities offered by the centre.

Bradford African Community (BAC) Drop-in-centre provided comprehensive support to individuals facing language and cultural barriers; unemployment; economically inactivity; and a lack of UK work experience, relevant qualification and skills. Our drop-in-centre helped participants to improve their jobs search skills, complete job applications and understand work expectations.

In addition, BAC supported individuals in managing essential tasks such as responding to universal credit and council tax correspondence, enabling them to set-up direct debits to avoid falling into arrears, and understanding eVisa requirement and housing related matters. Where specialist advice was needed, clients were signposted to trusted partners including Bradford Law centre, Manual Bravo project and Citizen's advice Bureau for legal advice.

# **Bradford African Community**

## **Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025**

### **Achievements and performance continued**

Our ESOL speaking and listening alongside cultural orientation workshops were delivered to help participants improve their English communication and deepen their understanding of life in the UK. The sessions supported refugees and migrants in developing the confidence to engage in everyday conversations, access public services and integrate more effectively into their local communities. Cultural orientation components also helped participants to understand British values, social norms and system, enhancing their ability to navigate daily life independently and contributing positively to society.

BAC organised a series of educational and recreational trips across Bradford and wider West Yorkshire to help beneficiaries explore different towns and cities, connect with new environments and gain a better understanding of life in the UK. These trips promoted social inclusion, cultural awareness, and community cohesion, while also providing participants, many of whom are refugees and migrants, with opportunities to build confidence, form friendships and feel more connected to their new home.

Through the Watoto (Children First and Great Little Mind) programme BAC delivered a range of activities for children and young people aimed at their language development. The play and Stay sessions, led by parents, provided safe and engaging spaces where children could learn, interact and build early communication and social skills. Through the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme BAC also offered enriching experiences such as swimming sessions, arts and crafts workshops, family cook and eat sessions and cinema visits featuring inspiring films. These activities were designed to enhance the physical, emotional and social wellbeing of young people, promoting confidence, creativity and positive relationships.

### **Key learning and reflections for the year 2024-2025, the Final years of BAC Engage project**

Over the past - and final - year of the Engage project, BAC has deepened its understanding of what drives meaningful engagement and sustainable impact within refugee and migrant communities.

We have learned that community-rooted approach remains central to building trust, participation and long-term inclusion. Our work has reaffirmed that language support is not only an educational need but a foundation for integration and meaningful participation and contribution to the wider British society, enabling access to employment, health and civic participation.

Through the HAF and Our Youth programme initiative, we have learned that early youth engagement helps prevent isolation and disengagement later in life, while community-led drop-in-centres continue to serve as effective first access points for individuals facing complex barriers, including language barriers.

Importantly, we have learned that social integration must be intentional and not incidental, requiring consistent collaboration between statutory agencies, voluntary organisations and local communities. Finally, we have seen the transformative potential of refugees and migrants as leaders, their lived experience and resilience have become powerful assets in co-designing and delivering inclusive services. These insights will continue to shape Bradford African Community's direction, guiding us towards a more responsive, partnership-driven and sustainable community development.

### **Financial review**

The net receipts for the year were £5,024, including net receipts of £21,757 on unrestricted funds and net payments of £16,733 on restricted funds.

# **Bradford African Community**

## **Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025**

### **Reserves policy**

The charity's free reserves, at the year end were £38,136.

The general purpose of BAC's reserves policy is to help to ensure the long-term financial stability of the organisation and position it to respond to varying economic conditions and changes affecting the organisation's financial position and the ability of the organisation to continuously carry out its mission.

- To enable the organisation to sustain operations through delays in payments of committed funding and to accept reimbursable contracts and grants without jeopardizing ongoing operations.
- To promote public and funder confidence in the long-term sustainability of the organisation by preventing chronic cash flow crises that can diminish its reputation and force its leaders to make expensive short-term, crisis-based decisions; and
- To create an internal line of credit to manage cash flow and maintain financial flexibility.

The trustees have agreed the target reserves should be between three and six months expenditure. Based on 2024/2025 expenditure this represents a reserves target of between £33,000 and £66,000.

Approved by the board of trustees on .....

Signed: ..... (Trustee)

Name: .....

## **Bradford African Community**

### **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bradford African Community**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 7 to 10.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the CIO 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 CIO's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

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

Signed: .....

Name: Rhys North ACA

Date: .....

Stringer House  
34 Lupton Street  
Leeds  
LS10 2QW

**Bradford African Community**  
**Receipts and payments account**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

		2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
<b>Receipts</b>					
Grants and donations	(2)	25,500	110,755	136,255	99,686
Bank interest		44	-	44	42
Other income		848	-	848	2,275
<b>Total receipts</b>		<u>26,392</u>	<u>110,755</u>	<u>137,147</u>	<u>102,003</u>
Salaries NI and pensions		282	64,830	65,112	64,587
Payroll charges		571	-	571	575
Freelancer fees		700	20,335	21,035	9,707
Activity costs		518	12,719	13,237	13,187
Equipment		130	2,542	2,672	3,481
Insurance		-	797	797	570
Rent		-	15,353	15,353	8,059
Transport and travel		-	4,420	4,420	4,512
Office, printing and stationery		678	1,691	2,369	3,764
Telephone and internet		634	77	711	670
Marketing		-	362	362	215
Volunteer expenses		-	1,220	1,220	579
Training - volunteers and staff		-	599	599	358
Independent examination		-	-	-	792
DBS checks		-	612	612	816
Car repairs and maintenance		1,122	-	1,122	-
Water rates		-	387	387	-
Other Costs		-	1,544	1,544	-
<b>Total payments</b>		<u>4,635</u>	<u>127,488</u>	<u>132,123</u>	<u>111,872</u>
<b>Net receipts / (payments)</b>		<u>21,757</u>	<u>(16,733)</u>	<u>5,024</u>	<u>(9,869)</u>
<b>Fund balances brought forward</b>		<u>16,379</u>	<u>27,389</u>	<u>43,768</u>	<u>53,637</u>
<b>Fund balances carried forward</b>	(3)	<u>38,136</u>	<u>10,656</u>	<u>48,792</u>	<u>43,768</u>



**Bradford African Community**  
**Statement of assets and liabilities**  
**as at 31 March 2025**

	2025	2025	2025	2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
<b>Cash funds</b>				
Cash at bank	38,043	10,656	48,699	43,034
Bradford Community Payroll	90	-	90	731
Cash in hand	3	-	3	3
<b>Total cash funds</b>	<u>38,136</u>	<u>10,656</u>	<u>48,792</u>	<u>43,768</u>

**Debtors and prepayments**

	2025
	£
Prepayments	<u>1,672</u>
	<u>1,672</u>

**Assets retained for the charity's own use**

Motor vehicle  
Office and computer equipment

**Liabilities**

	2025
	£
Accruals	<u>2,040</u>
	<u>2,040</u>

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on .....

Signed: ..... (Trustee)

Name: .....

# **Bradford African Community**

## **Notes to the accounts**

### **for the year ended 31 March 2025**

#### **1 Accounting policies**

##### **Basis of accounting**

The trustees have taken advantage of section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

##### **Taxation**

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

##### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

**Bradford African Community**  
**Notes to the accounts continued**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**2 Grants and donations**

	2025	2025	2025	2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds
	£	£	£	£
National Lottery Community Foundation (NLCF)	-	61,500	61,500	82,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation	25,000	-	25,000	-
Groundwork UK	-	22,349	22,349	-
Bradford District Metropolitan Council (BDMC)	-	18,600	18,600	16,986
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award	-	8,306	8,306	-
Other Donations	500	-	500	700
	<u>25,500</u>	<u>110,755</u>	<u>136,255</u>	<u>99,686</u>

**3 Restricted funds**

	Balance b/f	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Balance c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
NLCF Engage Project	25,814	61,500	87,314	-	-
BDMC HAF	1,575	18,600	17,634	-	2,541
Creating Pathways to Prosperity	-	22,349	22,349	-	-
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award	-	8,306	191	-	8,115
	<u>27,389</u>	<u>110,755</u>	<u>127,488</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,656</u>

**Fund name**

**Purpose of restriction**

NLCF Engage Project

To develop a safe space for support and advice to refugees and to provide educational and support opportunities.

BDMC HAF

To support the provision of food and activities during school holidays.

Creating Pathways to Prosperity

Groundwork UK funding towards a cost of employment support project.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Towards the cost of Duke of Edinburgh award scheme activities.

**4 Related party transactions**

**Trustee expenses**

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

**Trustee remuneration and benefits**

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.