

Company Number: 14733127
Registered Charity Number: 1192092

Northampton Town of Sanctuary Ltd
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Financial Statements and Trustees Annual Report

For Year Ended 31st December 2023

Company registration number: 14733127

Charity registered number: 1192092

Registered Office: 15 St Giles Street,
Northampton
NN1 1JA

Directors: Jamal Alwahabi
Nick Allen
Aideen Fogarty
Danielle Stone

Bankers:

Barclays Bank PLC

Company Secretary:

Danielle Stone

Independent Examiner: Council for Voluntary Services
Northampton & County
Brenda Peers-Ross
32-36 Hazelwood Road
Northampton
NN1 1LN

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The Directors of the Charitable Company (the Charity) are its trustees for the purposes of Charity Law throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees,

Forward by the Chair

Welcome to the 2023 Report of Northampton Town of Sanctuary.

We are in our ninth year of operation. Our partnerships and our reach have grown immeasurably. We are looking forward to a new phase in our work with the support of our first Full time member of staff, Syrah Nazir, who joins us as the NToS manager.

We continue to work with a rich array of partners and volunteers for whose support we are very grateful.

We are indebted to the national body City of Sanctuary for their advice and support, and for the campaigning on national issues that they lead on.

The threat of deportations to Rwanda remains present and we remain vigilant to the threat of abuse of Human Rights.

We thank our volunteers, our board and all our partners for making Refugees Welcome in Northampton. This was and remains our first and most important mission.

Structure and Governance

Northampton Town of Sanctuary Governance Statement 2023

This section sets out the Northampton Town of Sanctuary governance arrangements and the responsibilities of its management committee over the reporting period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 and the period up to 13 February 2024 when this statement was considered.

Legal Form and Constitution

Northampton Town of Sanctuary is a Charity registered with the UK Charity Committee (Charity Number: 1192092).

Charity Objects

The charity's objects ('the objects') are:

1. The promotion of social inclusion for the public benefit among people who are refugees and asylum seekers, socially excluded on the grounds of their social and economic position, by promoting and/or co-ordinating, in partnership with voluntary, community and faith organisations, services and facilities to assist them to adapt to life in the UK and within a new community.
2. The promotion of equality and diversity for the public benefit by promoting activities to foster understanding and good relations between the general public, refugees and asylum seekers as people seeking sanctuary.

Responsibilities

The Constitution of Northampton Town of Sanctuary (NToS) (agreed on 28 October 2020) sets out the management of the Charity through a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. These individuals are supported by a wider 'management group'. The Management Group consists of the following individuals:

- Danielle Stone (Chair)
- Graham Smith (Deputy Chair – a new post agreed at the Annual General Meeting 2022)
- Jamal Alwahabi (Treasurer)
- Nick Allen (Secretary)
- Paula Price
- Eleanor Spiers
- Kate Adams
- Jane Birch
- Dafer Al Rufaye
- Aideen Fogarty

- Meetings are held to conduct business other than that which is considered at the Annual General Meeting. These meetings are open to interested parties to join.

Reserves and Investment Policies.

Investment income – interest is brought into account on a receivable basis.

Reserve Policy - The current policy is to maintain sufficient cash flow for known commitments. Our aim to build a three to six months running costs.

Public Benefit

Northampton Town of Sanctuary in planning and delivery of activities gives serious consideration to the Charity Commission general guidance on Public Benefit.

Risk Assessment

Northampton Town of Sanctuary does not believe it is subject to any substantial risk beyond the liabilities disclosed in its Annual Report.

Financial Review

It has been a busy year financially having submitted several funding bids which have been successful. At the year-end unrestricted reserve amounted to £26,132 (2022: £15,352) restricted reserves held £35,909 (2022: £9,353).

NToS Chairs Report 2024

Another very busy year for NToS. A very difficult year for refugees in Northampton and in Northamptonshire.

Our big step forward for NToS was financing from Northampton Town Council to provide an office, which we set up in April.

In 2023 NToS offered friendship and projects to meet the needs of refugees on the Afghan resettlement scheme living in the Home Office hotels. We also offered support to households housed by the Home Office at Westone Manor hotel. All of this included_-

- transport to bring youth to refugee youth club L2L
- music sessions with the Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust, some at L2L and some at NMPAT
- one person showed interest in learning to play the violin. NToS bought him an instrument and NMPAT provided free tuition.
- ESOL, weekly in the library for 12 students
- with Safe Havens-providing a friendship project for women and children at Great Houghton Village Hall.
- linking people with other groups e.g. African Women with the United Africa Association. Muslim women with Pearls of Peace.
- day trips-we took a coach load of people from the hotels and from L2L to Hunstanton for the day.
- pro bono advice sessions run from the office.
- we offered volunteering opportunities and work experience opportunities
- an 8-session project with the Derngate.

Unfortunately, in August and September the Home Office saw fit to disrupt everyone's lives and plans, college placements and schooling, health appointments and social networks, by issuing eviction and resettlement orders. This was in order to close expensive hotels. People were dispersed as far as Manchester, Sheffield, Leamington Spa, Birmingham, Leicester with a complete disregard to friendship and support networks. For many of us working with these households it was like a bereavement. NToS has maintained contact with some households but it has been a very difficult time.

We have funding from WNC for the second year to enable us to continue to employ youth workers. We went to advert but had no satisfactory applications.

At present we employ three people, two of whom have come up through L2L.

L2L has also been through a transition phase with the older youth moving on and our numbers falling. This is in part because there are fewer Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Youth coming through. It is also because of the change of personnel in children's services and resettlement teams meaning we must re-establish the relationships.

We provide a cooked meal every week. We were fortunate to get funding from Goodwill Solutions for a cook and for the cost of meals at £3 a head and transport. At present we have a volunteer cook. We would like to pay her but she is only allowed to work in a shortage skills market and so we can't.

We thank our trustee Aideen Fogarty very much for continuing to support us in the kitchen.

Our relationship with Delapre Abbey continues to develop and we thank them for hosting an annual picnic in the walled garden and offering us tickets for events. Delapre kindly allows us to meet in the coach house and plays a very important support role.

This year they established a gardening group for refugees complete with volunteer drivers. This was one of the projects disrupted by the enforced removal of people from the hotels.

Another downside of the enforced displacement is the growing number of refugees becoming homeless and turning up at the Hope Centre.

2023 was the year we were successful in getting a lottery grant for 5 years. The grant pays for a full-time worker. We are very pleased indeed to have Syrah Nazir on board as the NToS manager.

The funding will also allow us to set up a community kitchen, run by refugees for refugees.

Looking Forward

Our work has grown so much and is now so complex we need more staff. We need a bookkeeper/fund raiser and a case worker. We could also do with a volunteer trainer/mentor.

The need for a refugee centre is evident. Having a centre would allow us to pull our projects together, to provide services and advice from one centre. We are being supported in this ambition by HAND- (Humanitarian Aid Northamptonshire Dispersal) and partner organisations, Goodwill, Brackmills Bid, the University of Northampton, Safe Havens, Northampton Town Council and others

I include here an outline looking towards a business plan.

Business Plan. Refugee Centre and Temporary Accommodation for displaced persons.

This is a potential partnership between NToS, Goodwill Solutions, Brackmills Bid, Northampton Town Council, NPH, and WNC

Purpose:

To establish a central venue for all refugee/displaced person services in WNC.

To provide accommodation for asylum seekers, refugees and households with no recourse to public funds for a 6-month period while they establish themselves.

To provide all the services needed in one location including: -

- Benefits, housing and education advice
- Welfare advice
- Immigration advice
- Asylum Advice
- NRPFs advice
- Careers advice and support
- ESOL classes
- A Well Being hub
- A Community Kitchen
- L2L youth club

Business Model

What To lease premises at a peppercorn rent. Albion House would be ideal.

Why Albion House has the potential to be repurposed for all the above services. It is central with good communication networks. It is in close proximity to Becketts Park where therapeutic activities-walking, sports etc, can be held. There are no near neighbours to be impacted. Housing to be provided by NPH.

How To formalise the above partnerships into a consortia, each providing support and services.

When During the next financial year. To negotiate with WNC the use of premises.

Outcomes

- Ease pressure on temporary accommodation
- Pro bono advice and support available saving WNC resource
- Client groups accessing everything they need at one venue
- Improvement in well being
- Expansion of volunteering opportunities
- Refugee/displaced persons in WNC empowered to make the journey to independence

Presented and approved by the Board of Trustees/Directors at a committee meeting held on 8th July 2024 and signed on their behalf.



Danielle Stone Trustee/Director



**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of:
NORTHAMPTON TOWN OF SANCTUARY LTD
Registered Charity Number: 1192092**

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I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on the attached pages 11 to 16.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the company is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, as amended; and
- state whether matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures of the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view," and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with the Companies section 386 of the 2006 Act: or
- the accounts do not accord with these records: or
- the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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: or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Brenda Peers-Ross

Brenda Peers-Ross FMAAT, ACIE
23RD July 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023	Charity only		Total 2022
		£	£	£	Unrestricted	Restricted	£
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	1	248	-	248	814	-	814
Charitable activities	2	36,250	27,310	63,560	23,758	13,722	37,480
Other income	3	806	-	806	159	-	159
Total income		37,304	27,310	64,614	24,731	13,722	38,453
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	4	26,524	754	27,278	21,187	11,152	32,339
Other		-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure		26,524	754	27,278	21,187	11,152	32,339
Net income/(expenditure)		10,780	26,556	37,336	3,544	2,570	6,114
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	753	(753)	-
Total transferred from charity		15,352	9,353	24,705	11,055	7,536	18,591
Total funds carried forward		26,132	35,909	62,041	15,352	9,353	24,704

Income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

Company Number: 14733127

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	6	-	-	-	-
Current Assets					
Debtors	7	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		26,405	35,909	62,314	24,704
Investment		-	-	-	-
		26,405	35,909	62,314	24,704
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(273)	-	(273)	-
		(273)	-	(273)	-
Net current assets /(liabilities)		26,132	35,909	62,041	24,704
Net assets/(liabilities)		26,132	35,909	62,041	24,704
Charity Funds					
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
Unrestricted funds	9	26,132	-	26,132	15,352
Restricted	10	-	35,909	35,909	9,352
Total charity funds/(deficit)		26,132	35,909	62,041	24,704

For the year ending 31st December 2023, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

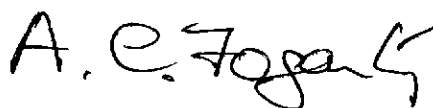
- (i) the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476.
- (ii) the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
- (iii) these accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.
comply with the requirements of this Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within the Companies Act 2006, SORP (FRS 102) effective October 2019 and relevant UK accounting standards.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 8th July 2024
Signed on behalf of the board of trustees.



Jamal Alwahabi Director/Trustee




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PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Practice SORP (FRS102) issued on 1st October 2019 and applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

Format

The company has taken advantage of the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 and presented an income and expenditure account in the form of a Statement of Financial Activities on the grounds that it enables the financial statements to show a true and fair view of the result for the year.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated funds is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Grants are brought into account on a receivable basis.

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which it has been received.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is stated inclusive of value added tax.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of all tangible fixed assets by instalments over the expected useful lives. The period generally applicable are:

Equipment	25% on	reducing balance method
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Intangible income

Intangible income, in the form of donated facilities and voluntary help etc., is not included in the financial statements since it is not considered practicable to quantify such income.

Reserves

The current reserve policy is to maintain sufficient cash flow for known commitments, and the replacement of replacement of certain assets. Not all grants/income are received at the beginning of the financial year other are received in arrears.

Risk

The directors/trustees do not believe the organisation is subject to any substantial risk beyond those disclosed in the Annual Report and Accounts.

The organisation has employer and public liability insurance to protect it in the case of a claim.

(A Company Limited By Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	Charity 2022 £
1 Donation and Legacies				
Donations	248	-	248	814
	248	-	248	814
2 Charitable Activities				
Grant: Northampton Town Council	10,000	-	10,000	500
Grant: WNC youth community worker	11,250	-	11,250	15,000
Grant: NCF - educational aids	-	-	-	2,922
Gant: Northampton Sports - summer	-	-	-	3,000
Gant: Northampton Sports - Easter	-	-	-	800
Gant: Northampton Sports - winter	-	-	-	2,907
Gant: Northampton Sports - football	-	-	-	2,000
Grant: Northampton Sports	-	2,107	2,107	2,093
Grant: Northampton Town Council movie night	-	-	-	658
Grant: Northampton Town Council Christmas activities	-	-	-	3,000
Grant: Northampton Town Council clothing	-	-	-	3,000
Grant: NCF Transport	4,000	-	4,000	-
Grant: Good Will Solutions	10,000	-	10,000	-
Grant: National Lottery	-	25,203	25,203	-
Grant: Henry Martin Bursary	1,000	-	1,000	-
Grant: Northampton Town Council transport and music	-	-	-	1,600
	36,250	27,310	63,560	37,480
3 Other Income				
Other	806	-	806	159
	806	-	806	159
4 Charitable activities				
5 Employment costs	5,229	-	5,229	9,962
Food, meal, drinks	199	-	199	3,708
Volunteers expenses	65	-	65	-
Repairs and equipment	109	200	309	2,931
Admin, stationery, telephones	530	-	530	221
Activities	-	318	318	7,701
General project	3,997	-	3,997	317
Clothing vouchers	-	-	-	3,000
Bikes and repairs	-	-	-	467
Travel, transport	6,144	-	6,144	581
Training, teaching materials	820	-	820	2
Spring Borough Voice	-	-	-	-
Afghan Refugee Women	-	-	-	-
NDAS	-	-	-	-
Other	907	236	1,143	1,269
Premises	7,426	-	7,426	-
Governance	-	-	-	-
Professional fees	180	-	180	2,181
Insurance	-	-	-	-
Independent Examination	918	-	918	-
Total expenditure	26,524	754	27,278	32,340
5 Trustees and Employment costs				
Gross salaries	5,229	-	5,229	9,962
Employer N I	-	-	-	-
ER Pension	-	-	-	-
	5,229	-	5,229	9,962

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

There are no employee being paid in excess of £60,000 per annum.

The average number of employees by head count during the year was: 1 (2022:1)

During the year the trustees received £nil in remuneration. (2022: £nil)

The total expenditure reimbursed to trustees amounted to £nil (2022: £nil)

6 Tangible assets

There are no fixed assets

	2023 £	2022 £
7 Debtors		
Prepayments	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

	2023 £	2022 £
8 Creditors - Amounts falling due within one year		
Sundry creditors	(273)	-
Accruals	-	-
	<u>(273)</u>	<u>-</u>

	Opening Balance 2022 £	Movement In £	Movement Out £	Transfer between funds £	Balance 2023 £
9 Unrestricted reserves					
General reserve	7,492	1,054	(7,173)	7,173	8,546
Designated:					
Northampton Town Council - clothing	33	-	-	-	33
WNC: Salaries	6,089	11,250	(6,294)	-	11,045
Northampton Town Council: Movie Night	122	-	-	-	122
Northampton Town Council : Christmas	295	-	-	-	295
Northamptonshire Sports: Summer	1,321	-	-	-	1,321
NCF: transport	-	4,000	(4,747)	747	-
Good Will Solutions	-	10,000	-	(7,920)	2,080
Henry Martin Bursary	-	1,000	(898)	-	102
Northampton Town Council - premises costs	-	10,000	(7,412)	-	2,588
	<u>15,352</u>	<u>37,304</u>	<u>(26,524)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,132</u>

WNC: to fund a Youth and Community worker.

Northampton Town Council: to fund a movie night.

Northampton Town Council: to cover various Christmas costs.

Northampton Town Council: to provide clothing vouchers for those in need.

Northamptonshire Sports: to cover summer coach and workshop.

NCF contribution towards travel costs.

Good Will Solutions - a contrubion towards food, youth worker salary and transport.

Henry Martin Bursary - funding support youth person.

Northampton Town Council - premises costs

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

10 Restricted Funds

	Opening Balance 2022 £	Movement In £	Movement Out £	Transfer between funds £	Balance 2023 £
Power to Change	556	-	-	-	556
NCF: Covid 19 Food voucher	530	-	-	-	530
NCF: Educational Aids	588	-	(200)	-	388
Northampton Sport: Summer coach & workshop	1,245	-	-	-	1,245
Northampton Sport Winter Camp	1,464	-	(318)	-	1,146
Northampton Sports	1,306	2,108	-	-	3,414
Northampton Sport: Football	1,776	-	-	-	1,776
Grant: NBC Youth Summit	1,887	-	-	-	1,887
National Lottery	-	25,203	(236)	-	24,967
	9,352	27,311	(754)	-	35,909

Power to Change - funds for a part-time Youth Worker, refurbishment of the venue and part of utility costs.

NCF: Covid 19 Food voucher provided to young people entitled to free school meals during lockdown.

NCF: Education Aid funds is to provide 12 laptops, software, and 2 mobile Wi-Fi devices to allow access to training.

Northampton Sport: Summer and Winter Camps to provide healthy eating and activities for vulnerable groups.

Northampton Sport to cover coach and workshop.

NBC - contribution to youth summit.

National Lottery - grant to fund a full time post and community kitchen.

11 Workforce pension

The Charity complies with current legislation.

12 Ultimate Controlling Party

The charitable company is under the ultimate control of its trustees, who are also the directors, and whose names are shown at the front of the financial statements.