



BRITSOM

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 MARCH 2025

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

M Ali
M Bashir
A Abdalla
M Mire

Charity Number

1196492

Principal address

Eversfield Centre
11 Eversfield Gardens
London NW7 2AE

Independent Examiner

M&H Associates
124 Kemp House
City Road
London
EC1 2NX

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128 Kemp House
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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

It is my privilege to present the 2024–2025 Annual Report, which reflects another year of dedicated service, progress, and resilience. BritSom remains steadfast in its mission to support the Somali Black, Minority, refugee, and migrant communities in Barnet.

Over the past year, the impact of the ongoing cost-of-living crisis has deepened. Many families continue to struggle to meet basic needs, with increased reliance on foodbanks and mounting pressures around housing insecurity. Eviction threats have become more frequent, and low-income households remain especially vulnerable to the rising costs of heating, food, and essential services.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I extend my sincere appreciation to our exceptional team of staff and volunteers. Their commitment, compassion, and perseverance have ensured that BritSom continues to be a lifeline for many. I also wish to thank our service users for their trust, patience, and strength throughout these ongoing challenges.

We are especially grateful to our funders and partners for their continued belief in our work and their vital support. As we look to the year ahead, we do so with determination, unity, and a shared hope for a more stable and equitable future.

Chair

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their report along with the Financial Statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016).

Aims and objectives

- To highlight and address the needs of the Somali and BMER (Black, Minority, Ethnic & Refugee) community in Barnet
- To work in partnership with other agencies and service providers to ensure the needs of the Somali and BMER community are known and met
- To provide facilities for education, leisure & recreation, sport, health promotion and social welfare for the children and young people
- To raise the educational achievement of the Somali, BMER and other disadvantaged children through after school classes
- To decrease the isolation of Somali and BMER women, children, the elderly and the disabled
- To improve the awareness and the access in the Somali BMER and other Communities of the available services
- To facilitate co-operation and understanding between Somali BMER community and other communities
- To influence social policy makers and service providers positively towards the needs of the Somali and BMER

How our activities deliver public benefit

The trustees have throughout the year paid regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in dealing with the aims and activities of the charity.

People have benefitted from our services and have gained access to education, training and employment.

Activities

- Health and Wellbeing
- Physical Activities
- Debt Management
- Youth Club
- Employment Support/NEET
- Welfare Advice
- Supplementary Classes
- Home-school Liaison - to improve the educational opportunities of children, prevent school exclusion and improve the relationship between families and schools
- Job search and job brokerage, volunteering opportunities and training.
- Workshops on: crime & drugs, health, community cohesion, social and cultural events
- Youth advice, sports activities and outings to theme parks and museums
- Family Support and mediation service
- Befriending and mentoring service, Tea and Talk parents' group
- Community consultation workshops
- SEN support programme
- Representing the Somali and BMER community at various strategic forums
- Promoting harmony and diversity between the Somali, BMER community and other communities.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Achievements and Performance

Advice, Information and Guidance provisions: over 400 people have benefited from our (AIG) services. This service increased during the coronavirus pandemic.

Recent Achievements

BritSom has stepped up to help hundreds of additional people from all communities during the cost-of-living crisis. Volunteers, staff, and trustees have gone above and beyond to offer drop-in sessions to over 460 people through our advice and advocacy service, which saved many from extreme poverty. This service included housing and welfare advice, ensuring people received the support they needed

Supplementary School: over 100 children have benefited the supplementary classes each week. The aim of this service is to support them with their homework to address the underachievement of the Somali and BAME children and young people. Our supplementary school has Gold Quality Framework Award.

Welfare Advice

We provide support regarding accessing benefits, rent arrears, utilities, benefit entitlement, housing issues to hundreds of disadvantaged and excluded people from Somali / BAME communities in Barnet.

Employment Support: over 50 adults have benefited from our one-to-one employment support and our monthly employment support workshops through online platform. Also, we have seen an increase in people wanting employment support service during the pandemic.

Quality Marks

Advice UK, NRCSE, Street Games and London Youth: Britsom is officially a member of London Youth.

Volunteering: our volunteers are the backbone of BritSom and have contributed over 3,800 hours equivalent in monetary terms.

Influencing policy: BritSom works with a number of local strategic bodies to promote partnership working between the sectors and the local community. We are members of Advice UK, London Youth Young Barnet Foundation, Community Barnet, Barnet Supplementary School Forum, the Refugee Council, NRCSE and Greater London Volunteering. We continued to lobby for recognition of the needs of the Somali Community on various platforms.

We have working agreement with Trinity Church Mill Hill and close working relationship with Hasmaneian high girls' school.

Events: we have an Annual Celebration where we recognise the achievements of students and volunteers.

Funding

The Trustees wish to offer their warm thanks to the following organisations for their generous support of BritSom during the period of this Financial Report: **John Lyon's Charity, City Bridge Foundation, The London Community Foundation, National Lottery Community Fund, Trust for London and Garfield Weston Foundation.**

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Trustees

M Ali

M Mire

M Bashir

A Abdalla

Financial Review & Reserves Policy

The Charity Commission for England recognised that there is a legal duty on Management Committee Members of Charities to set reserve level and justify that this is reasonable. To meet this responsibility and manage risk BritSom Management Committee Members have set an appropriate reserve level to meet the ongoing needs of the organisation.

BritSom has no general funding guaranteed annual income and therefore, as an acknowledgement of financial risks accrued through the day-to-day activities and ongoing services. The organisations aim to generate sufficient unrestricted reserves to maintain operations for 5 months running cost and allow the services to continue. This reserve target was set by the Management Committee on 09 December 2024 at £70,000 for 6 months' operation running cost.

Investment powers and policy

The Charity's funds are to be spent in the short term and there are no long-term funds or advance funds, which cannot be investments in the money market.

Plans for Future Periods

BritSom aims to continue the delivery and consolidation of the current activities along with a number of new initiatives subject to availability of funds. We will also explore options for diversification of our income generation and funding sources to build BritSom's sustainability.

The future planned activities are as follows:

- To sustain the services currently offered by the charity
- Work towards quality frameworks to the highest mark possible
- Fundraise for the core projects and for the key workers in the organisation.
- Undertake a review of existing funding and income generation.
- Attract funding for full time Chief Executive Officer
- Attract funding for Educational and welfare support worker to work with our Children and Young People (CYP).

Review of financial position

At the balance sheet date, the total funds of the Charity were £85,785.62 (2024: £168,126).

Risk Management

The Trustees have a risk management strategy, which comprises the following areas:

- An annual review of the risks the charity may face.
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan.
- And the Implementations of such procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialize.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Structure, governance and management

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association. The directors of the company are also trustees of the charity. Eligibility for membership of the charity and membership of the board of trustees is governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association. There are no restrictions in the governing document on the operation of the charity or on its investment powers, other than those imposed by general charity law.

Appointment of trustees

Recruitment and Appointment of Management Committee Members of the Management Committee are all recruited from volunteers within the Community.

Trustee Induction and Training Most trustees are already familiar with the work of the charity as a result of being local people and due to their involvement in the charity. Additionally, new trustees are invited and encouraged to attend induction and training in relevant policies and procedures as and when necessary.

Trustees' induction and training

Management Committee Members receive an induction pack detailing their responsibilities, Code of Conducts, meeting timetable, conflict of interest policy and declaration forms, CC3 (Responsibilities of Charity Trustees) paper and equal opportunity policies. Management Committee Members volunteering for personnel, day to day activities and financial subcommittees.

- a. Induction of new Management Committee members will wherever possible be undertaken by the two most senior office holders and most senior staff members who have already undergone the induction procedure (the inductors).
- b. Induction of new Management Committee members will wherever possible take place at the BritSom office no later than ten working days after the election of the new Management Committee member.
- c. The new Management Committee member will be introduced to other Management Committee members and BritSom employees and volunteers and be given a description of the work each of them undertakes.
- d. The new Management Committee member will be shown round the BritSom office and will be expected to familiarise themselves with the services provided and who takes the lead in providing those services.
- e. The inductor will provide the new Management Committee member with the following documents:
 - The most up to date Charity Commission booklets outlining their roles and responsibilities
 - The Constitution
 - The Policies and Procedures File and the Annual Report
 - The minutes of Trustees meetings
 - The contact details of all other Management Committee members.

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025****Trustees' Responsibilities:****Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements**

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees 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 its financial activities for that year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the Trustees should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice 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 operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Financial statements and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the trust deed. The Trustees 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.

M Ali
Chair

Dated: 10-May-2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF BRITSOM
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Examiner's Report to the Trustees of BritSom

Report to the trustees of Britsom, registered charity no. 1196492, on the accounts for the year ended 31/03/2025 set out on pages 7 to 8.

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended.

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

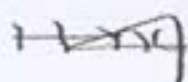
- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Address:

M&H Associates
124 Kemp House
City Road
London
EC1 2NX

Date: 10-May-2025



**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

Category	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Total 2025 (£)	Total 2024 (£)
Grants	-	205,432	205,432	168,557
Donations	-	-	-	5,579
Total Incoming Resources	-	205,432	205,432	174,136
Staff and Management Salaries	-	114,493.70	114,493.70	119,405
Sessional Workers	-	39,421	39,421	15,133
Operations	-	62,523.68	62,523.68	33,780
Total Resources Expended	-	216,438.38	216,438.38	168,318
Net Incoming / (Outgoing)	-	-11,006.38	-11,006.38	5,818
Brought Forward (1 April 2024)	70,434	97,692	168,126	168,126
Carried Forward (31 March 2025)	70,434	85,785.62	156,219.62	168,126

M&H Associates
125 Kemp House
City Road
London
EC1 3HX

[Signature]

Date: 10-May-2025

BRITSOM
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The accounts have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Incoming resources

Incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the charity can quantify the amount with reasonable accuracy.

1.3 Resources expended

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

1.4 Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

- Unrestricted funds – these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees. Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.
- Restricted funds – these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the object of the charity. Restrictions also apply when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular purposes. Expenditure that meets these criteria is identified in the fund.

BRITSOM
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

Category	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Total Funds (£)
Fixed Assets	–	–	–
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank and In Hand	70,434	85,785.62	156,219.62
Total Current Assets	70,434	85,785.62	156,219.62
Liabilities	–	–	–
Net Assets	70,434	85,785.62	156,219.62
Funds			
Unrestricted Funds	70,434	–	70,434
Restricted Funds	–	85,785.62	85,785.62
Total Funds	70,434	85,785.62	156,219.62

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 10 May 2025



.....
M Ali
Trustee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025 (CONTINUED)

1.5 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025 (CONTINUED)**

1. Analysis of Charitable Funds

Analysis of Unrestricted Funds Movements

Fund	Balance at 1 April 2024 (£)	Incoming Resources (£)	Resources Expended (£)	Balance at 31 March 2025 (£)
Reserve Fund	70,434	–	–	70,434

Total Unrestricted Funds

70,434 70,434

2. Analysis of Restricted Funds Movements

Fund	Balance at 1 April 2024 (£)	Incoming Resources (£)	Resources Expended (£)	Balance at 31 March 2025 (£)
Restricted Grants	97,692	205,432	216,438.38	85,785.62

Total Restricted Funds

97,692 205,432 216,438.38 85,785.62

Name of the fund

Description, nature and purpose of the fund

Grant fund

to carry out activities set by grantees

3. Staff costs

The average weekly number of employees remunerated during the year, calculated on a full-time equivalent basis, was 5 (2024 – 5).

No individual is remunerated at a level in excess of £30,000.