



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 06/04/2024 (Period start date) 05/04/25 (Period end date)

Charity name: A Community for Change (ACFC)

Charity registration number: 1196539

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The purpose of A Community for Change (ACFC) is to support the public by helping children and young people thrive. We aim to empower parents, carers, and families with the resources they need to better meet the needs of these children and young people. ACFC are based around a team of volunteers who are responsible for the governance and management of the organisation.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>Due to time constraints, we were only able to host two of our flagship Community Conversations during the reporting year.</p> <p>In November 2024 we discussed <b>Discrimination in the Workplace</b> with guest speaker MJ Maher and in April 2025 we addressed <b>The evolution of the School system</b> with guest speaker Paul Obinna.</p> <p>In the spring of 2024, the Saturday School was renamed the Black Learning &amp; Excellence Saturday School (BLESS). All of our flagship Community Conversations and BLESS programme are delivered via Zoom.</p> <p>BLESS offers a powerful blend of education, history, and health and wellbeing issues specifically aimed at people from the Black diaspora. Feedback shows that these events provided clear public benefit by raising awareness of significant issues</p>

		<p>within the community.</p> <p>These sessions have been instrumental in enhancing participants' knowledge in core subjects like Maths and English as well as looking at prominent Black people in British, US and world history, alongside fostering awareness of mental health and neurodiversity. The ages of the students were between 9 to 16 years old.</p> <p>Some of our sessions were led by our students and after a short absence, we were able to take our young people on two field trips: one within the local area; the other was to The British National Library as part of Black History month. Among the topics/subjects covered by BLESS in the reporting year included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Life stories of prominent Black people in English, US and world history</li> <li>• Maths, English, Geography and History</li> <li>• Riddles and games to consolidate learning during the reporting year</li> </ul> <p>Periodical reviews are important as they help young people enhance their knowledge and to recall what they know or remember.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p>The trustees have taken into account the rules and recommendations from the Charity Commission to ensure the charity is working in the best interests of the public and fulfilling its charitable purpose.</p> <p>The trustees aim is to operate transparently and responsibly, for the public benefit.</p>

#### **Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	

Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>Sixteen volunteers and facilitators supported BLESS during the reporting year an increase of five: this included the services of an external Mental Health and Wellbeing practitioner.</p> <p>Our sessions have directly supported over 10 young people, instilling self-confidence, improving academic skills, and fostering cultural awareness. Feedback from participants and parents highlights the transformative effect of our work, with one parent noting how ACFC has reignited her daughter's passion for learning.</p>
Other		<p>To answer this question here is feedback from two participants:</p> <p>1. <i>"I am really happy that I was introduced to ACFC's Saturday School. Not only has it empowered young people from low-income communities, it has encouraged my daughter's passion for learning as well as building up her self-confidence. This has also encouraged me to lead classes that will increase their knowledge of black history and culture that is not shared in mainstream education"</i> – Saturday School, Parent Volunteer</p> <p>2. "As a young person leading the ACFC Saturday School session on Black history, it taught me to be more confident in my abilities. It improved my communications skills and helped me to understand the importance of planning and flexibility when working with others." – Young Saturday School Participant</p>

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>ACFC was created in 2020 by voluntary members of the community passionate about setting up a forum to support parents in response to incidents of youth violence in Newham. It became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in 2021.</p> <p>Since its inception, ACFC has focused its activities through periodical Community Conversations and the Black Learning and Excellence Saturday School (BLESS). The BLESS sessions are scheduled to align with school term dates. However, our partner group, Rights and Equalities in Newham (REIN), has hosted additional sessions during half term to encourage broader social engagement to include cooking, arts and crafts and physical education.</p> <p>Through our tailored educational programs, we have successfully supported over 10 students in enhancing their life skills, boosting their confidence, and expanding their knowledge in key subjects such as mental health and expanding their cultural awareness.</p> <p>BLESS strives to contribute to reducing educational inequalities and providing opportunities for social mobility. By empowering young people with support from their parents/carers with the tools to succeed, we are helping to build a more educated, confident, and capable generation.</p>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	See ' <b>Achievements and Performance</b> ' – Summary of the main achievements... (above).
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	<b>N/A</b>

Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		ACFC is a not-for-profit organisation set up in the quest to realise our vision to give parents and carers a voice by empowering them to be instrumental in the change they want to see for their children in the community.

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Currently relying on volunteers to support the activities of the Black Learning and Excellence Saturday School (BLESS)
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<b>N/A</b>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Previous reserves £1000. £40 deducted to pay the facilitator of a community conversation. Current total: £960
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	<b>N/A</b>
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	<b>Nil</b>
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	The principal source of funds are mainly through funding applications but we are able to fulfil our activities with the support of volunteers and trustees.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The principal source of funds are mainly through funding applications.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	<b>N/A</b>
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<b>Financial Sustainability:</b> A potential reduction in funding or donations could impact the charity's ability to deliver its programs and services at the scale required.  <b>Volunteer and Staff Retention:</b> Our programs rely heavily on the support of dedicated volunteers. There is a risk of turnover or difficulty in recruitment, which could affect the quality and consistency of service delivery.
Other		<b>N/A</b>

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	ACFC Constitution as of 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	ACFC Constitution as of 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<p>Every trustee must be appointed by a resolution passed at the properly convened meeting of the trustees</p> <p>With regard the selection of trustees for appointment, the trustees must have regard to the skills knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.</p>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	<p>Trustees may appoint one of their member to chair meetings and at any time invoke such appointment. If no one is appointed or if the person appointed is unwilling to preside or is not present within 10 minutes after the time of the meeting the Trustees present may appoint one of their member to chair the meeting.</p> <p>A Trustee may not appoint anyone else to act on their behalf at Trustees meetings.</p> <p>A meeting may be held by suitable electronic means agreed by the Trustees in which each participant may communicate with all the other participants.</p> <p>No decisions may be made by the meeting of the Trustees unless a quorum is present at the time the decision is made. "Present" includes being present. Suitable electronic means agreed by the Trustees in which participant or participants may communicate with all the other participants.</p> <p>The quorum shall be two Trustees or one third of the Trustees, whichever is the greater number.</p> <p>A Trustee shall not be counted in the quorum present when any decision is made about a matter upon which that Trustee is not entitled to vote.</p> <p>Questions arising at any meetings shall be</p>
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		decided by a majority of votes, each Trustee having one vote. In the case of an equality of votes, the chair of the meeting shall not have a second or casting vote and the resolution shall be lost.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	There are four people who have the responsibility of being Trustees of ACFC. They support the governance and management of the organisation. Their names are listed at the end of this document. They have the role of: Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	ACFC are supported in its efforts by two organisations: Rights and Equalities in Newham ( <b>REIN</b> ) and <b>Wipers</b> , a youth justice social enterprise that specialises in working with vulnerable and disadvantaged young people.
Other		<b>N/A</b>

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	A Community For Change
Other name the charity uses	ACFC
Registered charity number	1196539
Charity's principal address	1a Cumberland Road Plaistow London E13 8LH

## Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Keith Thomas	Chairperson	November 2021	ACFC
2	Shazad Yasin	Treasurer	November 2021	ACFC
3	Tony Davis	Vice Chair	November 2021	ACFC
4	Momodou Lamin Sanyang	Secretary	November 2021	ACFC
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## Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

## Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
Keith Thomas	Chairperson	
Shazad Yasin	Treasurer	
Tony Davis	Vice Chair	
Momodou Lamin Sanyang	Secretary	

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A
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## Other optional information

As stated within this form, we are a team of four volunteers who have taken on the governance and management of the organisation. We strive to make a difference in our community despite the added responsibility of having full time jobs.


We made a payment of £40 to MJ Maher for leading one of our periodical Community Conversations.

## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

	
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Full name(s)

Keith Thomas

Position (eg Secretary,  
Chair, etc)

Chair

Date

04.02.26