

Charity registration number: 1196673

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

Shropshire Supports Refugees

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Shropshire Supports Refugees
Reference and Administration Details

Trustees	Dr Heather Thomas (Chair)
	Roger Ford (Treasurer)
	Jane Smalley (Safeguarding)
	Giles Bell
	Nour Morjan
	Tetyana Zahrebelna
Senior Management	Amanda Jones (CEO)
Charity Registration Number	1196673
Principal Office	3-5 Mardol Gardens Shrewsbury SY1 1PR
Independent Examiner	Clare Beale Greenbridge Consultancy Ltd Factory Farm Factory Lane Oreton DY14 8RJ

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

Shropshire Supports Refugees (SSR) exists to assist and support refugees settled in the Shropshire area. SSR provides a range of services, goods, support and advice including ESOL and leisure and recreation activities for the families. We provide a support network and facilitate helping to create the community networks necessary to live happy, independent lives.

Our charitable objectives are:

1. To advance the education of the public in general about the issues relating to refugees and those seeking asylum
2. To advance the education and training of those granted refugee status and their dependents in need thereof, so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community
3. To preserve and protect the physical and mental health of those granted refugee status and their dependents
4. The relief of unemployment of those granted refugee status and those seeking asylum in the United Kingdom, and in particular Shropshire, by the provision of vocational and skills training, advice and support

Nature of governing document

The charity is operated under the rules of its constitution adopted 19 November 2021.

Objectives, strategies and activities

In 2023, our main objectives were to:

- Fully develop as a co-ordinating body for services that support people who migrate and are marginalised within Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin.
- Provide advice and guidance to refugee families in accessing services and supporting them to develop their independence.
- Develop as a financially sustainable, independent and accountable organisation that champions the needs and aspirations of migrants and those who are marginalised across Shropshire.
- Raise public awareness and support of migrant issues and to provide opportunities for people who have migrated to tell their stories and express their needs.
- Support all those of a refugee and migrant background to be able to participate successfully in the communities in which they live.

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and performance

During the year, we successfully:

- Assisted over 1000 service users face to face
- Assisted 75 families to find homes of their own in Shropshire
- Delivered 102 advice and training sessions
- Coordinated and delivered 600 hours of ESOL lessons
- Held 148 therapy sessions
- Issued 112 statements of comparability to services users
- Held awareness raising events which included recording a song written by a staff member
- Launched sports programs supporting asylum hotels
- Undertook fundraising events to provide service users with clothing and everyday essentials

Public benefit

Our activities help promote and facilitate the social and economic integration of migrants into UK society, therefore contributing to the relief of poverty, the development of education and social cohesion.

During the year, we have delivered support to service users relating to navigation of services and systems to promote independence. We have engaged with volunteers to aid integration of service users, running groups within the community to promote wellbeing and alleviated some pressure from Shropshire statutory services.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Future priorities

The charity sees its future priorities as:

- The broadening of our funding base
- Enhancing of staffing structure to improve efficiency and impact
- Becoming an Office of Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC)
- Complying with charities Objects and Aims

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Trustees' Report (continued)

Financial review

Shropshire Supports Refugees is dedicated to ensuring sustainability and continuity of operations. As part of our financial strategy, we recognise the critical importance of generating adequate reserves to safeguard our services and projects.

The primary financial objective is to have a minimum reserve of three months' operating costs. By the end of 2023, operating costs were running at between £35k and £40k per month and the cash reserves were £95k, just short of the 3 months costs required. Debtors relating to the period were £87k and have been settled post year end.

The charity is of the opinion both cash and debtors combined at the end of the year are in excess of the minimum reserve policy.

In 2023, total income was £465k, offset by total expenditure of £398k.

The charity has no debts at this time.

2022 records were reported on a "receipts and payment" method, and have therefore been restated to reflect 2023 presentation.

Policy on reserves

Our aim is to maintain a reserve equivalent to three months operational costs, ensuring sustainability and the ability to meet unforeseen expenses.

Structure, governance and management

Major risks and management of those risks

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied there are systems in place to mitigate exposure to major risks. The main risks are identified by the Charity Commission as;

- Governance and Management
- Operational
- Financial
- Operation Environment

Trustees are recruited through recommendations from existing trustees, community outreach and our website. We ensure a diverse representation of the community and seek individuals with relevant skills and experience to support our objectives.

One of the main risks to ongoing delivery of activities relates to staffing, the loss of key members of staff and the inability to recruit and retain experienced staff. Staff are paid at a market rate of pay for the sector and reflective of their skills, which should mitigate this risk.

Shropshire Supports Refugees
Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and the applicable laws and regulations.


The law applicable to charities 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 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 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper 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 Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 21st Oct '24 and signed on its behalf by:


.....

Dr Heather Thomas

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Shropshire Support Refugees

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Shropshire Supports Refugees (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity, 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 Charity'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

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA), which is one of the listed bodies.

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than the 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 proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

.....*Clare Beale*.....

Clare Beale GCMA

Greenbridge Consultancy Ltd

Date 21/10/2024.....

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 31 Dec 23 £	Restated Total 31 Dec 22 £
Income & Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	77,357	51,278	128,635	23,434
Charitable activities	3	-	335,644	335,644	34,822
Other trading activities	4	720	-	720	-
Total income		78,077	386,922	464,999	58,256
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	(13,579)	(384,604)	(398,183)	(9,010)
Total Expenditure		(13,579)	(384,604)	(398,183)	(9,010)
Net income/(expenditure)		64,498	2,318	66,816	49,246
Transfer between funds		(578)	578	-	-
Net movement in funds		63,920	2,896	66,816	49,246
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds b/fwd		25,899	23,347	49,246	-
Total funds c/fwd	15	89,819	26,243	116,062	49,246

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for the period is shown in note 15.

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

These figures for the previous accounting period are included for comparative purposes

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Restated Total 31 Dec 2022 £
Income & Endowments				
from:				
Donations and legacies	2	17,086	6,348	23,434
Charitable activities	3	9,852	24,970	34,822
Other trading activities	4	-	-	-
Total income		26,938	31,318	58,256
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	6	(1,039)	(7,971)	(9,010)
Total Expenditure		(1,039)	(7,971)	(9,010)
Net income/(expenditure)		25,899	23,347	49,246
Transfer between funds		-	-	-
Net movement in funds		25,899	23,347	49,246
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds b/fwd		-	-	-
Total funds c/fwd	15	25,899	23,347	49,246

Shropshire Supports Refugees
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	Restated 2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	1,871	-
Current assets			
Debtors	11	94,072	-
Cash at bank and in hand	12	95,912	50,915
		189,984	50,915
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(61,127)	(1,669)
Net current assets		128,857	49,246
Total assets less current liabilities		130,728	49,246
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(14,666)	-
Net assets		116,062	49,246
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds	15	26,243	23,347
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		89,819	25,899
Total funds	15	116,062	49,246

The financial statements on pages 9 to 20 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on and signed on their behalf by:

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Dr Heather Thomas

Trustee

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting Policies

Statement of Compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statements of Recommended Practice issued October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Shropshire Supports Refugees meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and Liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value less otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Exemption for preparing a cash flow statement

Under the exemption available to smaller charities, the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue to as a going concern. The assessment is carried out for a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when the receipt is probable and the amounts can be reliably measured.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are not yet met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income.

Gift Aid

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the Statement of Financial Activities at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measure reliably.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises of those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature to support them.

Government Grants

Government Grants are recognised on the accrual model and are measured at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are classified as either relating to revenue or assets. Grants relating to revenue are recognised in income over the period in which the related costs are recognised. Grants relating to assets are recognised over the expected useful life of the asset. Where part of the grant relating to an asset is deferred, it is recognised as deferred income.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in paragraph 1 schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 f the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Single assets costing £500 or more recorded at cost, less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less residual value, over their expected useful economic life.

Depreciation rates used are as follows:

Computer Equipment	33% straight line method
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Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for services performed or goods sold in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised at the transaction price, less provision for any impairment. A provision is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of receivables.

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise of cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Fund structure

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

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area for a specific purpose, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Pension and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined pension contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due.

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Restated Total 2022 £
Donations and legacies				
Donations - companies & trusts	74,797	680	75,477	2,659
Donations - charities	-	667	668	2,895
Donations - individuals	2,560	9,592	12,151	9,630
Grants, including capital grants				
Grants - companies & trusts	-	500	500	8,250
Grants from other charities	-	39,839	39,839	-
	<u>77,357</u>	<u>51,278</u>	<u>128,635</u>	<u>23,434</u>

3 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Restated Total 2022 £
Grants from charities	7,630	7,630	34,322
Grants from companies and trusts	1,250	1,250	-
Government grants	9,999	9,999	500
Government contract	316,765	316,765	-
	<u>335,644</u>	<u>335,644</u>	<u>34,822</u>

4 Income from other Trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Restated Total 2022 £
Room Hire	80	80	-
Other items recharged	640	640	-
	<u>720</u>	<u>720</u>	<u>-</u>

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

5 Grants and donations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
The National Lottery	-	39,039	39,039
SSR CIC (at closure)	74,797	-	74,797
Wolverhampton Council	-	9,999	9,999
Energize	-	3,460	3,460
Shrewsbury Bid	-	1,000	1,000
Novuna	-	500	500
Homes Plus	-	1,000	1,000
Trinity College London	-	2,900	2,900
Ford Britton Trust	-	250	250
Wynn Foundation	-	1,070	1,070
Individual donations	2,560	9,592	12,152
Humanists	-	180	180
Britpart	-	500	500
Shrewsbury Quakers	-	167	167
St Chads	-	500	500
	<u>77,357</u>	<u>70,157</u>	<u>147,514</u>

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Activities	-	114,560	114,560
Accountancy	2,620	-	2,620
Advertising	787	163	950
Computer costs	560	815	1,375
HR Services	506	-	506
Insurance	3,076	1,440	4,516
Office Consumables	303	2,101	2,404
Wages, NI & Pension	-	233,656	233,656
Telephone	1,584	400	1,984
Professional	2,403	1,107	3,510
Rent	-	22,695	22,695
Repair and maintenance	207	1,040	1,247
Staff training	146	-	146
Storage	380	-	380
Subscriptions	745	304	1,049
Travel	253	2,173	2,426
Gas & electricity	-	2,159	2,159
Waste	-	440	440
Water	-	480	480
Depreciation	-	935	935
Miscellaneous	9	136	145
	<u>13,579</u>	<u>384,604</u>	<u>398,183</u>

7 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming/outgoing resources for the year include:

	2023 £	Restated 2022 £
Depreciation of fixed assets	<u>935</u>	<u>-</u>

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

8 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2023	Restated 2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	218,528	-
Social security costs	13,231	-
Pension costs	1,897	-
	<u>233,656</u>	<u>-</u>

There were 15 (2022 – NIL) employees in the year.

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

The total employment benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £31,867.

9 Independent examiner's fees

During the period, the fees payable (excluding VAT) to the charity's independent examiner Greenbridge Consultancy Ltd are analysed as follows:

	2023	Restated 2022
	£	£
Independent examination	400	-
Other services	2,220	850
	<u>2,620</u>	<u>850</u>

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 January 2023	-	-
Addition in year	2,806	2,806
At 31 December 2023	2,806	2,806
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2023	-	-
Charge for the year	935	935
At 31 December 2023	935	935
Net Book Value		
At 1 January 2023	-	-
At 31 December 2023	1,871	1,871

11 Debtors

	2023 £	Restated 2022 £
Debtors	87,322	-
Prepayments & Accrued income	6,750	-
	94,072	-

12 Cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	Restated 2022 £
Cash at bank	95,311	50,915
Cash in hand	600	-
	95,911	50,915

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	Restated 2022 £
Accruals & Deferred income	60,623	850
Other creditors	504	819
	61,127	1,669

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

14 Creditors: amounts falling after within one year

	2023	Restated 2022
	£	£
Deferred income	<u>14,666</u>	<u>-</u>

15 Funds

	Balance 1 Jan 23	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance 31 Dec 23
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	25,899	78,077	(13,579)	(578)	89,819
Restricted funds					
The National Lottery	-	39,039	(39,039)	-	-
Shropshire Council	-	316,765	(298,149)	-	18,616
Ford Britton Trust	-	250	-	-	250
Novuno	-	500	-	-	500
BNO	-	9,999	(6,992)	-	3,007
Energize – Together fund	-	3,060	(3,060)	-	-
Energize - Yoga	5,877	400	(6,437)	160	-
Landaidd	4,290	-	(4,047)	-	243
Home Plus	-	1,000	(300)	-	700
Shropshire Masonic	1,000	-	(332)	-	668
Trinity – Asylum Seekers	-	2,900	(2,054)	-	846
Trinity - ESOL	5,940	-	(5,939)	-	1
Warm Space	500	-	(500)	-	-
Wynn Medics	-	1,070	(563)	-	507
Ukraine	-	655	(655)	-	-
Asylum Seekers	5,425	9,793	(15,636)	418	-
Refugee Week	315	1,491	(901)	-	905
Total restricted funds	<u>23,347</u>	<u>386,922</u>	<u>(384,604)</u>	<u>578</u>	<u>26,243</u>
Total funds	<u>49,246</u>	<u>464,999</u>	<u>(398,183)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>116,062</u>

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

The specific purposes for the funds are to be applied as follows:

The National Lottery – Funding of 3 Core members of staff

Shropshire Council - Local Authority for Shropshire – Funding for hub, satellite hubs, activities, consumables, office costs and staff

Ford Britton Trust, national motor company – Funding for a projector

Novuna, UK leading finance provider – Core overhead funding

BNO, West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership – Funding for focussed education workshops and integration for British Nationals Overseas (BNO) in Shropshire

Energize, a charity improving the quality of peoples lives through physical activity – Together fund – Funding for sports activities for asylum seekers

Energize, a charity improving the quality of peoples lives through physical activity – Funding for a Ukrainian yoga project

Landaid, a property industry charity and grant makers – Funding for a Ukrainian staff member on Saturdays

Home Plus, a local housing group in Shropshire – Funding for Technology to aid digital inclusion

Shropshire Masons - Funding for Technology

Trinity College London, a leading education charity – Language access funds to enable asylum seekers to study and sit English exams

Trinity College London, a leading education charity – Language access funds to enable Ukrainians to study and sit English exams

Warm Space – Government initiative to provide warm spaces

Wynn Foundation, supporting community needs within Shropshire - Funding for medical English books and resources to support specific ESOL classes

Ukraine – Individual fundraising for provision of items for Ukraine refugees

Asylum Seekers – Individual fundraising for asylum seekers in the county

Refugee Week – Fundraising events and activities to support the national Refugee Week initiative

Shropshire Supports Refugees

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

16 Analysis of net assets between Funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Restated Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Current assets	27,609	164,246	191,855	50,915
Current liabilities	(1,366)	(59,761)	(61,127)	(1,669)
Creditors over 1 Year	-	(14,666)	(14,666)	-
	<u>26,243</u>	<u>89,819</u>	<u>116,062</u>	<u>49,246</u>

17 Related party transactions

The charity received funds from the closure of Shropshire Supports Refugees CIC during the year.

18 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursement of any other benefits during the year.