

BRITISH FRIENDS OF RABBIS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

England & Wales · Charity number 1197223

Details

Other names	THE BRITISH FRIENDS OF RABBIS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, BRITISH FRIENDS OF RABBIS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (UK)
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2021-12-20
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Liberal Jewish Synagogue 28 St. Johns Wood Road London NW8 7HA
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Website	https://rhruk.co.uk/

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND IN THOSE TERRITORIES WHICH ARE GEOGRAPHICALLY CLOSE TO THE STATE OF ISRAEL, SUCH CHARITABLE PURPOSES ACCORDING TO THE LAWS OF ENGLAND AND WALES AS THE TRUSTEES SHALL THINK FIT, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE PROMOTION OF HUMAN DIGNITY, CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE, RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND EQUALITY FOR ALL OF THE CITIZENS OF ISRAEL AND TO EDUCATE IN SUCH CHARITABLE PURPOSES EITHER IN THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE STATE OF ISRAEL OR THOSE TERRITORIES WHICH ARE GEOGRAPHICALLY CLOSE TO THE STATE OF ISRAEL.

Activities: Advance for public benefit in State of Israel and territories geographically close thereto such charitable purposes under laws of England & Wales as trustees think fit including promotion of human dignity, civil/human rights, social/economic justice, religious freedom & equality for all Israeli citizens and to educate in such charitable purposes either in UK ,Israel or neighbouring territories

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Israel
- Occupied Palestinian Territories
- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	-	-	-	-
2023-12-31	£11,811	£6,385	-	-
2022-12-31	£8,220	£11,550	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
RABBI ALEXANDRA WRIGHT	Chair	2021-12-20
Henrietta Susan Louise Cohen		2023-04-13
RABBI SYLVIA ROTHSCHILD		2021-12-20
Rabbi DANIEL RICH		2021-12-20

BRITISH FRIENDS OF RABBIS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1197223

Accounts

**Trustees of British Friends of Rabbis for Human Rights (A charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Report for Calendar and Financial Year ending 31 December 2023**

Our objects are: “ To advance for the public benefit in the State of Israel and in those territories which are geographically close to the State of Israel, such charitable purposes according to the laws of England and Wales as the Trustees shall think fit, in particular but not limited to the promotion of human dignity, civil and human rights, social and economic justice, religious freedom and equality for all the citizens of Israel and to educate in such charitable purposes either in the United Kingdom or the State of Israel or those territories which are geographically close to the State of Israel.”

- 1. Natwest Bank is our bank.** It informed us during this past year that we must open a “business account” because we had become a CIO. The Trustees had informed the bank at time of creating our new Constitution (late 2021/early 2022)that we were now a CIO and sent a copy to the Bank, of which they were seemingly unaware. Accordingly we have opened a new business account and are continuing to run it alongside our old account. The old account will be closed when we can alter our website and our Just Giving details to divert all donations to the new account.
- 2. Sources of Funds.** These are annual donations from members , donations from Just Giving appeals and many one off donations , particularly from Synagogues , Jewish and non Jewish Congregations, grants from other charities and recovery of Gift Aid. The trustees take into account the Charity Commission’s public benefit guidance in making donations to Rabbis for Human Rights , “RHR”, an Israeli NGO. Other funds will be spent on organising talks /speakers in the United Kingdom about RHR’s work and objectives in Israel and the occupied territories .
- 3. Reserves and donations policy**

The policy of the Trustees is to retain a total credit balance of c. £2,500 at least and ensure excessive funds are not accumulated. Inevitably as a consequence of the effects of the War in Gaza (where RHR does not operate) there has been an increase in basic humanitarian needs to be met for Israelis (both Jews and Arabs) and Arabs in the occupied territories.

 - a. A very successful Just Giving appeal was set up on our website to enable distribution of Food Boxes and also medical supplies to survivors of October 7th, families in Southern Israel, Bedouin communities in unrecognised villages in the Negev, Palestinian communities in the West Bank facing settler violence, asylum seekers and migrant workers.
 - b. Furthermore separately assistance has continued and is continuing throughout the agricultural year in assisting with the olive harvest and planting of olive trees , both new ones and replacing those destroyed by settlers (over 1,000 planted). Visits have been and are being made by groups of Rabbis to villages in the Nablus area to show support to their occupants and effectively deter violent illegal settlers.
 - c. RHR representatives have hosted several prayer and interfaith conferences in Arab and Jewish cities.
 - d. Work continues at the Rights Centre in Hadera advising and assisting Israeli residents suffering power cuts due to debt, giving voluntary legal advice, assisting families, particularly large ones, in obtaining public housing and the maintenance of such housing. The Centre publicises the availability of its services.

e. RHR still works with close to 1,000 Israeli Gap Year students teaching about Judaism and Human Rights with field learning in various places including Jerusalem, Hebron and the Negev.

4. Risk Assessment/management

The Trustees have a risk management strategy comprising the establishment of policies and procedures designed to minimise or manage any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

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British Friends of Rabbis for Human Rights

(A charitable Incorporated Organisation)

British Friends of Rabbis for Human Rights, “BFRHR”, became a CIO on 20 December 2021. The assets and liabilities of the pre-existing unincorporated charity of the same name registered with HMRC for gift aid purposes were transferred to the CIO. It continues to have very low overheads consisting primarily of website fees, including fees for work on the website and bank charges. All funds are held in a bank account with Natwest.

Its objects are: “ To advance for the public benefit in the State of Israel and in those territories which are geographically close to the State of Israel, such charitable purposes according to the laws of England and Wales as the Trustees shall think fit, in particular but not limited to the promotion of human dignity, civil and human rights, social and economic justice, religious freedom and equality for all the citizens of Israel and to educate in such charitable purposes either in the United Kingdom or the State of Israel or those territories which are geographically close to the State of Israel.”

a. Reserves and donations policy.

The policy of the Trustees is to retain a credit of c.£2,500 and ensure that excessive funds are not accumulated. Any surplus is distributed primarily to Rabbis for Human Rights , an Israeli NGO, the strict translation of its Hebrew title is The Rabbinical Voice for Human Rights, but in the English speaking world it is known as Rabbis for Human Rights, “RHR”. Other funds will be spent on organising talks/ speakers about its objectives in the United Kingdom. Its last pre CIO donation and the donation made very recently was/will be concentrated:

- i. on work at the Rights Centre in Hadera, Israel, to Israeli residents suffering power cuts due to debt, frequently involving voluntary legal advice, assistance to families, particularly large ones, in obtaining public housing and the maintenance of it. The centre also publicises the availability of its services. Demand for such work at the Rights Centre expanded considerably in the recent past due to the impact of covid;
- ii. assisting Palestinian farmers and shepherds , particularly in the Occupied Territories(OT), throughout the agricultural year. A peak time for assistance is during the olive harvest when the farmers are subjected to illegal settler violence, including burning and damaging trees (over 1150 in the recent autumn 2022 harvest) or theft of their trees (at least 800) . Proportions of our donations are used for the purchase and planting of new and replacement trees. Palestinians contact RHR volunteers directly for help,i.e. the Mayor of Burka asked that they arrive by helicopter in his village thus neutering severe settler violence. Palestinians operate on traditional family farms with little mechanisation and suffer a lack of access to their agricultural land in the OT thus aggravating their economic and political situation.
- iii. Work with close to 1,000 Israeli gap year students in a dozen programme groups, teaching about Judaism and human rights in embedded year long courses and engaging in human rights-based field learning in various places including Jerusalem, Hebron and the Negev.

Sources of funds are annual donations from members, one off donations particularly from Synagogues/Congregations that have designated us as donees of High Holy Day Appeals, grants from other charities and recovery of gift aid.

The trustees take into account the Charity Commission’s public benefit guidance in making donations to RHR.

Risk Assessment/management

The trustees have a risk management strategy comprising the establishment of policies and procedures to mitigate identified risks and of procedures designed to minimise or manage any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

BRITISH FRIENDS OF RABBIS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS a CIO registered with the Charity Commission number 1197223 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS from the date of registration DECEMBER 20 2021 to DECEMBER 31 2022

Opening balance held at Natwest, Surbiton after transfer of closing balance of old unincorporated unregistered charity of same name
£6,290.08

Receipts from membership subscriptions/donations
(including donations for Trees) **£7,764.00**

Gift aid recovery **£456.25**
Total receipts £8,220.25

Expenses

Website fees **£100.08**
Bank charges **£50.30**
Legal fees re creation &
Incorporation of CIO **£4,800.00**
Total Expenses £4,950.38

Excess of receipts over expenses £3,269.87

(Deduct donation to Rabbis for Human Rights, Israel) £6,600.00)

Net excess of expenses and donation over total receipts -
£3,330.13

Closing balance held at Natwest, Surbiton at 31/12/2022 +
£2,959.95