

AL-EHSAN FOUNDATION (UK)

England & Wales · Charity number 1198238

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2022-03-14

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Activities

Objects: 1) TO ADVANCE THE ISLAMIC FAITH FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE HOLDING AND PROMOTION OF PRAYER MEETINGS, LECTURES PUBLIC CELEBRATION OF RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS, EXHIBITIONS, THE PROVISION OF PLACES OF WORSHIP AND PRODUCING AND/OR DISTRIBUTING LITERATURE ON ISLAM TO ENLIGHTEN OTHERS ABOUT THE RELIGION.(2) THE PROMOTION OF RELIGIOUS HARMONY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC INCLUDING BY:(A) PROMOTING INTERFAITH DIALOGUE BETWEEN DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS BELIEFS RAISING AN AWARENESS OF THEIR DISTINCTIVE FEATURES AND THEIR COMMON GROUND TO PROMOTE GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN PERSONS OF DIFFERENT FAITHS;(B) PROMOTING KNOWLEDGE AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND RESPECT OF THE BELIEFS AND PRACTICES OF DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS FAITHS.(3) THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF POVERTY OF ANY PERSONS WHO ARE IN NEED IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR NATIONALITY, RACE, ETHNIC ORIGIN AND RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, WHETHER IN THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THROUGHOUT THE WORLD BY PROVIDING GRANTS, ITEMS AND SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS IN NEED AND/OR CHARITIES, OR OTHER ORGANISATIONS WORKING TO PREVENT OR RELIEVE POVERTY

Activities: To advance the Islamic faith for the benefit of the public including but not limited to the holding of prayer meetings, lectures, the provision of places of worship and producing literature on Islam. To establish liaison and work with government, voluntary sector, local authority, statutory bodies, and other agencies and religions to promote good relations between people.South West England

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Bath And North East Somerset
- Somerset
- Swindon
- Wiltshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31		£0	£0	-
2024-03-31		£0	£0	-
2023-03-31		£1,650	£0	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Imam Rashad Ahmad Azami	Chair	2021-11-12
Jusna Dunlop		2021-11-12
Omar Abdullah Abdul Shakour		2021-11-12

AL-EHSAN FOUNDATION (UK)

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**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
AL-EHSAN FOUNDATION (UK)
FINANCIAL YEAR –
01 APRIL 2024 – 31st MARCH 2025**

INTRODUCTION

The founding principles of AL-Ehsan Foundation (UK) - ALEF as an organisation are to deliver its services and aims, where possible, through a volunteer network, collaborating with other charities/NGOs with the aim of within a five year period to establish a small work force of part-time paid employees mostly for administration and accounting matters who promote the work of the organisation and co-ordinate volunteers. ALEF wanted to use most of any funds donated purely for the public benefit rather than salaries/expenses. Unfortunately, due to life changing health matters that affected some of the founding members of the charity at senior level it was decided that rather than trying to expand the Charity in the way it was first envisaged, the Trustees would support ongoing commitments and work that the existing volunteers at ALEF were already involved in and only take on new commitments where time and manpower allowed.

With the continuing needs of the community and requests from the organisations that ALEF work with, it was decided that rather than take any decisions that would either seriously curtail/end the works of our volunteers or put the organisation on a footing where it could not adequately deliver on its commitments, it was best to carry on with the existing number of volunteers and projects for another calendar year. Postponing the decision on the future direction and leadership of the organisation until the end of the first half of 2026. This was the best course of action which would serve the needs of the community, meeting our charitable commitments as an organisation and thereby allowing those at the heart of the organisation time to recover without being forced to take decisions which would in hindsight be seen as hasty.

1.VOLUNTEERS.

- The core number of volunteers remained steady throughout the year, continuing to work with our partner organisations/general community delivering on the aims of the Charity.
- As with many organisations in the sector, we had a few long-term volunteers who could not continue with voluntary work due to family circumstances. Equally on the positive side we had some young people who were at the beginning of their careers in various sectors, and expressed a wish to help us, and we were able to provide them with some experience, that was suitable for them. Bringing on the next generation being a key factor to the continuing growth of any organisation.
- We ended the year with the same number of committed volunteers we had at the beginning.

2.WORK AND SERVICES CARRIED OUT

This year has been a continuation of the work and services we provided last year, without seeking to expand our services or seek new funding for the reasons outlined above. The challenge for the ALEF team was not to disappoint the people and organisations who we have worked with in the past by turning down requests. Although, we could not meet all requests for our input/services, we were able to provide some representation on most requests. The work carried out and organisations we worked with in the past year were mostly similar to the previous year to include:

- School visits – In conjunction with Trowbridge Mosque to run school visits for local schools within Wiltshire, for the children to visit the mosque and to participate in workshops etc as part of their wider RE classes. These visits were increased in number due to the success of the services we provided in the previous year.
- Working alongside Wiltshire Police in an advisory capacity on numerous panels, workshops presentations etc by various members of the ALEF team.
- Scrutiny Panel Wiltshire Police.
- Meeting and liaising with other faith organisations including Wiltshire Faith Communities Network.
- Continuing to provide advice and assistance to SACRE – Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education.
- Providing advice and assistance to members of the local community (not just women) on various matters and where possible, if it is not within the experience or remit of ALEF volunteers putting them in touch with other more suitable organisations.

For example, we were asked to help with cases ranging from substance abuse, domestic abuse, school exclusion to forced marriages.

We have seen an increase in requests to help vulnerable members of the community especially women and children. As an organisation we have become known as having experienced female volunteers and have had requests from far and wide across the country to advise women and children who find themselves in difficulties. This was not a specific aim of the wider goals of the Charity, but as a Charity we get any manner of requests. Mostly, it is a case of finding the right organisations to help the individuals/families, who put their faith and trust in us to help them. We are usually the first point of call before they get the right help. We stay with them until the matter is resolved. Some of these cases are complex ongoing cases, involving multi agency input.

3.FUNDING

The aim of raising funds for ALEF is in two parts. Firstly, the funding required to run the organisation and secondly, any funding raised to donate to good causes that have already been identified or to the general fund.

- (i) **FUNDING FOR AL-EHSAN (ALEF)** – It was again agreed that for the forthcoming year, there would be a pause on the efforts to raise funding for offices/premises

as remote working and meetings were working well. The ALEF volunteers were able to deliver a lot of their services at the client venue (e.g. schools, other NGOs and governmental organisations). As our volunteers are not employees, any travel expenses they incurred are presented directly to the organisations which required their services.

(ii) **FUNDING FOR GOOD CAUSES** – In deciding to pause funding generally it was also decided to pause raising money directly for ALEF to distribute to good causes. Where possible people were redirected to existing organisations which met their specific needs. One of the main aims of ALEF is to co-ordinate and work with other organisations so as not to duplicate work thereby depleting precious resources in both monetary and people terms.

OVERSEAS CHARITABLE CAUSES – We did not take on any new overseas projects to support, but instead ALEF continued to work with the small ongoing projects as previously in collaboration with charities on the ground together with other UK registered charities helping the same cause:

- to help finish the women and children's health clinic in Gambia, in providing it with running water and clean clinical premises.
- to provide some funding for the provision of internal plasterwork, decoration and flooring for a mosque in Gambia
- continuing to support orphans, vulnerable women and general poverty relief by directing donations to charities/people dealing with poverty relief for Gambia, Bangladesh and Morocco.

4. ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS/BANK ACCOUNT

As can be seen from the accompanying Annual Accounts, there has not been any further funds put into the bank account or monies taken out, for the reasons previously stated the bank account was not in operation. The balance of our account remains unchanged. We were offered donations generally but with our ethos that monies should be directed at good causes, we directed the donations to other local charities who needed the resources to operate as we were able to operate our services with volunteers with any expenses being paid directly to the volunteers (these were travel expenses). Donations to overseas charitable causes (3(ii) above) were done directly through third parties/charities. ALEF was not the main charity organising funds for those causes.

OTHER MATTERS/FUTURE

The amount of work and services the volunteers have managed to do, has been steady with timely delivery. Notwithstanding the fact that we have not been able to expand as hoped, we are often the first port of call for many organisations who need a speaker/presentation on faith matters within the Southwest. It is a vital service, as we only provide speakers who are suitably qualified/experts on their subject and can therefore deliver a coherent and professional service, which is particularly important when dealing with children and young people. The work we do is often repeat work with organisations we have worked with previously and we are asked to speak at events and venues from across the country due to recommendations. Within the community, our volunteers are asked to help at times in sensitive and difficult situations, as the people who are in these situations are often

vulnerable and reluctant to seek advice; having somebody they can trust who is independent is crucial. It is one of the reasons, we have continued to operate as it is better to offer a limited service rather than none.

The coming year will be a crucial one for ALEF as the Trustees will need to address where the organisation goes in the future. Whilst the Trustees are pleased that we have been able to operate, they are acutely aware, that the organisation will need to move forward in terms of raising finance, increasing the number of volunteers to realise its original ambitions when it was first set up.

Trustees of Al-Ehsan Foundation
Annual Report – Updated January 2026

AL-EHSAN FOUNDATION (UK)

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FROM 1ST APRIL 2024 TO 31ST MARCH 2025

Al-Ehsan Foundation (UK)		
DESCRIPTION	Summary of accounts	Comment
2024/2025 Income	Income	Comments
Gen funds and Mosque working	£650.00	This amount remains the same as 2023/2024 due to no financial activity
Charitable donation	£1000.00	This amount remains the same as 2023/2024 due to no financial activity
TOTAL	£1650.00	
2024/2025 Expenses	£0.00	
Total Income	£1650.00	

1-Gen Funds- Running Costs as defined by the trustees

2-Mosque- Funds collected towards building a Mosque/or Mosques

3-Charitable Cause- To help community eradicate poverty, help educate children from poor families and assist with higher education in UK and Overseas.

4-External training- Income received from School visits and training statutory bodies.

AL-EHSAN FOUNDATION (UK)

England & Wales - Charity number 1198238

Accounts

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
AL-EHSAN FOUNDATION (UK)
FINANCIAL YEAR -
01 APRIL 2023 - 31st MARCH 2024**

INTRODUCTION

Having made a promising start towards the beginning of April 2023 the Trustees identified the outstanding issues to complete the administration and set up of the organisation and the main projects for the forthcoming year.

1. VOLUNTEERS

To complete the process of onboarding the volunteers on an official basis and to designate specific roles to them as befitting their areas of expertise.

2. FUNDING

Funding was divided into two parts. Firstly, the funding required to run the organisation and secondly, any funding raised to donate to good causes that have already been identified or to the general fund.

- (i) **FUNDING FOR AL-EHSAN (ALEF)** - It was agreed that for the forthcoming year, there would not be a specific drive to raise funding for offices/premises as remote working and meetings were working well. The previous year, the Charity was able to deliver a lot of its services at the client venue (e.g. schools, other NGO's and Governmental organisations). When premises were required for in person events, ALEF was able to use premises of different organisations which were made available. The focus for the short term was to concentrate on establishing the organisation and promoting the works it carried out. In terms of the works carried out by volunteers, their expenses would be met directly by the organisations to which services were provided.
- (ii) **FUNDING FOR GOOD CAUSES** - There were a lot of approaches for help with funding for all types of causes both abroad and at home. Where possible people were redirected to existing organisations which better met their specific needs. One of the main aims of ALEF is to co-ordinate and work with other organisations so as not to duplicate work thereby depleting precious resources in both monetary and people terms. Organisations and individuals who needed financial assistance were helped to approach/apply to the correct agencies and government departments which were set up to deal with their queries/specific needs.
OVERSEAS CHARITABLE CAUSES*(please see bank account for more details) - It was decided to promote small projects

which we could make a significant impact and once again in collaboration with other local charities and existing UK registered charities. Some of the projects that we helped raise funding for inter alia included:

- Funds to provide running water and sanitary conditions for a women and children's health clinic in Gambia
- To provide some funding for the provision of a replacement roof and flooring for a mosque in Gambia
- Directing donations to charities dealing with poverty relief for women and orphans in Gambia, Bangladesh and Morocco.

3. WORK AND SERVICES CARRIED OUT

The Trustees are pleased to report that ALEF was able to despite setbacks (please see below) provide many of the services that it was set out to do. Particularly in collaboration with other NGO'S to provide services to the local community in the most efficient way possible for the benefit of all. Some of the works carried out by ALEF volunteers are as follows:

- SCHOOL VISITS - In conjunction with Trowbridge Mosque (one of the oldest established mosques in Wiltshire) to run school visits for local schools within Wiltshire, for the children to visit the mosque and to participate in workshops etc as part of their wider RE classes.
- Working alongside Wiltshire Police in an advisory capacity
- Meeting and liaising with other Faith organisations including Wiltshire Faith Communities Network
- Providing advice and assistant to SACRE - Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education
- Working with the CPS (Crown Prosecution Service)
- Providing advice and assistance to members of the local community on various matters, and where possible providing those individuals with the advice and assistance and where it is not within the experience or remit of ALEF volunteers putting them in touch with other more suitable organisations. In many cases due to the number of female volunteers who work with ALEF, we get approached to provide moral support and guidance to women who find themselves in difficulties..

4. ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS/BANK ACCOUNT

As can be seen from the accompanying Annual Accounts, there has not been any further funds put into the bank account or monies taken out, so the amount has not changed from the Annual Accounts for the previous Financial Year 2022-2023. The bank account was not in operation for the last financial year due to severe health issues affecting some of the Trustees (see below). *Donations to overseas charitable causes (2 above) were done directly through third parties. ALEF promoted the causes and any money raised via ALEF's promotions were asked to be paid directly to

the charities/individuals involved in raising funds for those causes. ALEF was not the main charity organising funds for those causes.

5. OTHER IMPORTANT MATTERS

ALEF was in the process of starting many projects and bringing on additional volunteers to join but unfortunately during the second year of operation it was beset by two major setbacks. Firstly, during the latter part of 2023, the CEO suffered major debilitating health issues which meant that she had to take a back seat and was unable to work. With the CEO unable to continue, it was left to the remaining trustees and volunteers to carry on. However, things slowed significantly when a few months later the Chairman also fell seriously ill. With both the Chairman and CEO out of action, most of the formative work from website formation, on boarding volunteers and forging links with other organisations, funding etc were stopped. The volunteers and remaining founder/trustee who were already working on projects carried on with existing relationships. It is a testament to their hard work and commitment that ALEF was able to provide the services it did.

The CEO's condition is now stable and returning back to normal slowly, and the Chairman is making good progress. It is a year since both experienced life changing medical conditions but God willing they should make a full recovery and be able to resume their roles fully.

FUTURE

Having started so well, due to the unforeseen events, ALEF as an organisation has not been able to develop as hoped. However, even with all the set back the need for ALEF to provide the services it was set up to do, is evident by all the work that the few volunteers who were able to continue has shown. Volunteers at ALEF are inundated with requests for help from both individuals and organisations and there is a clear need for the kind of work it aims to do. The next year will be crucial to ALEF's future as a stand-alone organisation. With both the CEO and Chairman hoping to get back to carrying out more work in the next year, it is hoped ALEF can start to rebuild and deliver more of the services it was set up to do.

The Trustees of Al-Ehsan Foundation (UK)
January 2025

Al-Ehsan Foundation (UK)

Statement of Accounts from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024		
Descriptions	Summary of account	Comment
2023/2024 Income	Income	Comments
Gen funds and Mosque working	£650.00	This amount remains the same as 2022/2023 due to no financial activity
Charitable donation	£1000.00	This amount remains the same as 2022/2023 due to no financial activity
Total Income	£1650.00	
2023/2024 Expenses	£0.00	
Net Income	£1650.00	

Gen Funds-Running costs as defined by the trustees

Mosque- Funds collected towards building a Mosque or Mosques

Charitable Cause- To help community to eradicate poverty, help educate children from poor families and assist with higher education inUK and Overseas.

External training- Income received from school visits and training statutory bodies,

AL-EHSAN FOUNDATION (UK)

England & Wales - Charity number 1198238

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**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
AL-EHSAN FOUNDATION (UK)
FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING -
MARCH 2022-MARCH 2023**

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Al-Ehsan Foundation (UK) ALEF was formed from a desire to have an umbrella organisation which not only brought together other faith and non faith based organisations together to promote the work done in their local communities so as to benefit the whole community by disseminating information about Islam as a religion and contributing to charitable endeavours which enhance the wellbeing of the population both local, national and overseas if it was suitable and needed.

The Trustees felt that there was sadly, still far too much disinformation and misunderstanding about Islam and Muslims, particularly those living in the UK. To summarise the core values and aims of ALEF:

- **VISION** - To be an organisation of excellence and inspiration for local people to foster social cohesion and human fellowship by means of exhibiting the beauty, simplicity and consistency of Islam through the intrinsic goodness of its teachings.
- **MISSION**- To provide a platform for promoting a positive understanding of Islamic teachings and to encourage the engagement of the local Muslims in awareness and outreach projects that will benefit both them and wider society.
- **MOTO** - *Wa ahsinu* is the Islamic concept of high virtues and selfless acts of goodness to oneself and to others. It is the highest value of faith and belief in Allah. The noble Quran promotes the concept of wa ahsinu as it is meant to purify human hearts and bring peace and harmony to the people of this world.
- **AIMS** -
 - (1) To help create greater awareness and understanding of Islam and its spiritual and moral values in the light of Quranic teaching and Prophetic guidance.
 - (2) To be a reference point for providing information about Islam and Muslims, mainly in the Southwest of England
 - (3) To create a mechanism by which members of the Muslim community and non-Muslim communities can engage with each other to help create a cohesive society and strengthen the community relations.
 - (4) To work towards the creation and maintenance of partnerships with statutory, community and voluntary organisations who similarly wish to engage for the common good.
 - (5) To provide support and guidance to those interested in learning about Islam.

The founding trustees to include volunteers of the charity have between them many decades of running/volunteering for various charities and in some cases have been pivotal to the continuing development of Islamic teaching and social integration between Muslims and non Muslims. in the UK, particularly in the South West of England. Under the guidance and leadership of Sheikh Rashad Azami, a renowned Islamic Scholar who is a widely published author of books and articles, both nationally and internationally both on the teachings of Islam and Muslims in general, it was felt that Al-Ehsan would bring together people who had been similarly engaged so that their work can continue and be passed on to the next generation.

AMBITION/FUNDING

The overall aim of ALEF is ambitious and would require a significant amount of initial funding, particularly for suitable central premises and for the charitable donations and legacies which ALEF would wish to fund either on its own accord or in conjunction with other charities. One of the fundamental values of ALEF and its founders is to minimise costs and keep every possible penny for good causes, and its aims are to use volunteers wherever possible. In that regard, it was welcome news when a potential donor indicated that they intended to make a substantial donation, towards the setting up of the organisation. This would have enabled the organisation to start on a very strong footing.

BANK ACCOUNT/FUNDING

As a new organisation it was necessary for ALEF to open a bank account. However, due to several administrative errors which caused undue delay by the Bank, it took some six months for the initial bank account to be opened. The bank paid a sum of £150.00 as compensation for the delay. However, due to unfortunate circumstances, by the time ALEF was able to accept donations, the global financial situation had changed within that six months' period, and the large donation was no longer available. Similarly, other donors who had indicated that they would be willing to provide funds, were no longer in a financial position to be able to do so.

Some individual donations were still received (please see accounts).

Once it was clear that the larger donations would not be forthcoming for the next financial year, the trustees decided not to actively seek funds from smaller donors as this would not be enough to meet the setting up costs (for example premises). But to only fundraise when any need was identified that required funding, for example a specific donation to people in poverty who requested funds.

The lack of financial resources was not an issue, as some of the works of ALEF, could be done without a call on monetary resources.

WORK AND SERVICES CARRIED OUT

Most of the first year of operation was taken up by identifying the right people to volunteer for the charity and administration and setting up issues. However, alongside this, the trustees and other volunteers continued to engage with other groups and provided help and assistance when required and in that regard, they carried out:

- Giving talks to various schools on Islam and holding workshops
- Giving talks to Statutory organisations on working with the Muslim community and any specific difficulties and needs.
- Working alongside other charities and faith based organisations in how best to provide a cohesive service to the local population.
- Working and being available to provide advice and assistance to numerous organisations on matters of faith.
- Advising members of the Muslim and non Muslim communities who ask for assistance on various matters, and where possible providing these individuals with the information and guidance required; and where it is not within the experience or remit of ALEF volunteers putting them in touch with other more suitable organisations who are able to help them.

EXPENSES

As it can be seen from the annual financial statement, although there is money in the account of ALEF, no money has been paid out. This was made possible by the volunteers, who when carrying out work on behalf of Al Ehsan, decided not to claim any of their expenses due to the nascent nature of the Charity.

CONCLUSION

The aims of ALEF are both ambitious and laudable but did not appear without foundation, but from solid footing based on the experiences of the founders. Much of the aims of the organisation have been carried out by the founding trustees and volunteers to a lesser or greater extent on either their own accord or with other organisations over many decades. It is the desire to bring it all together under one organisation and build something solid from the experiences and knowledge of as many people who are willing to join the endeavour to leave a legacy of “a library and wealth of information from a centre of excellence” for future generations to build on, which remains the ambition. Whether we are able to achieve some of our aims as an organisation is very much dependent on many factors. As a new organisation, ALEF has experienced more than its fair share of teething issues, due to circumstances unforeseen. The next few years will be vital to see if the original interest and enthusiasm shown by many to the creation of the organisation is matched by commitment of both time and finances.

In the meantime, the ALEF organisation through the individuals who continue to work tirelessly (as volunteers) within the community have contributed to the wellbeing of many.

Jusna Dunlop
Chief Executive Officer

Al-Ehsan Foundation (UK)

Statement of Accounts from 14th March 2022 to 31st March 2023

Descriptions	Summary of Accounts	Comments
2022-2023 Income	Income	
Gen Funds and Mosque working	£650.00	
Charitable Donation	£1000.00	
Total Income	£1650.00	
2022-2023 Expenses	£0.00	
Net InCome	£1650.00	