



WANDSWORTH WELCOMES REFUGEES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31/03/2023

Overview

Wandsworth Welcomes Refugees is a member of the City of Sanctuary network. We support local organisations (schools, libraries, cafes, theatres) to become accredited sanctuaries and are working with Wandsworth Council to become a borough of Sanctuary. We also run events for Refugee Week as well as appeals for digital devices and bikes which are distributed to local refugees and asylum seekers.

Registered address: Church of St Mary & St John the Divine, Balham High Road, London, SW12 9BS

Registered Charity number: 1199527

Structure, governance and management

Wandsworth Welcomes Refugees was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 1st July 2022. It is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with a constitution whose only voting members are its charity trustees.

Wandsworth Welcomes Refugees must have at least three charity trustees and the maximum number of charity trustees is twelve.

The first charity trustees are as follows, and have been appointed for the following terms:

Penny Rogers for 2 years (July 2022 - July 2024)

Ellie Pyemont for 3 years (July 2022 - July 2025)

Florence Andrews (chair of trustees) for 4 years (July 2022 - July 2026)

Trustees subsequently appointed are as follows, and have been appointed for the following terms:

Sam Robins for 3 years (January 2023 - January 2026)

Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

The charity trustees must make available to each new charity trustee, on or before their first appointment: a copy of the current version of the CIO constitution; and a copy of the CIO's latest Trustees' Annual Report and statement of accounts.

Any decision by charity trustees is taken either at a meeting of the charity trustees or by resolution in writing or electronic form agreed by a majority of all of the charity trustees, which may comprise either a single document or several documents containing the text of the resolution in like form to which the majority of all of the charity trustees has signified their agreement.

Such a resolution shall be effective provided that a copy of the proposed resolution has been sent, at or as near as reasonably practicable to the same time, to all of the charity trustees; and the majority of all of the charity trustees has signified agreement to the resolution in a document or documents which has or have been authenticated by their signature, by a statement of their identity accompanying the document or documents, or in such other manner as the charity trustees have previously resolved, and delivered to the CIO at its principal office or such other place as the trustees may resolve within 28 days of the circulation date.

Financial overview

With the first year of operation as a financial entity, we have held healthy financial reserves at the end of the financial year. No fund is in material deficit and future planned expenditure can all be met by recurring monthly unrestricted donations. Our reserves statement is that all funds are carried forward as reserves if less than £5,000. If greater than £5,000 to be brought to the Committee for discussion.

Public benefit statement

The objects of Wandsworth Welcomes Refugees are:

1. To advance equality and diversity for the public benefit for people seeking sanctuary by collaborating as a network of individuals and organisations and promoting activities that foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds and welcome people who have made Wandsworth their home.
2. To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people in Wandsworth from becoming socially excluded, and relieving the needs of those people within Wandsworth who are socially excluded by reason of their refugee or asylum seeker status and assisting them to integrate into society.
3. To advance the education of the public in general about the issues relating to refugees and those seeking asylum.

In order to carry out the CIO's charitable purposes for the public benefit, during the year Wandsworth Welcomes Refugees has carried out the following activities:

Object	Activity
1	Led the assessment and accreditation of Oxfam Tooting, which was awarded Sanctuary status in January 2023, making it the first shop of sanctuary in Wandsworth. ¹
	Played a key role in Wandsworth Council's pledge to become a Borough of Sanctuary including through membership of the Wandsworth Migration Forum and influencing the development of Wandsworth Council's Sanctuary Strategy. ²
	Supported Wandsworth Libraries' borough-wide pledge to become Libraries of Sanctuary.
	Led on signposting and promotion of partner organisations including publishing a directory which aims to help refugees, asylum seekers and resettled people find local support and facilities. ³
2	Refurbished 35 donated bikes for distribution to local refugees and asylum seekers to enable them to access food banks, legal advice, healthcare, and education.
	Reset 72 donated digital devices for distribution to local refugees and asylum seekers to enable them to make GP appointments, contact official helplines, and access education including online English lessons. ⁴
3	Organised events for Refugee Week in June 2022 which were attended by over 50 people including an event focused on wellbeing and healing at the Home Community Café (which was awarded café of Sanctuary status in March 2022). ⁵
	Raised awareness of local, national and international refugee and asylum seeker issues through a monthly newsletter which has over 600 subscribers and social media activity which reaches over 2000 supporters.

The charity trustees have complied with the duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Wandsworth Welcomes Refugees was recognised at the Tooting Heroes Awards in June 2022 and the Balham & Tooting Community Awards in March 2023 and won a Wandsworth Council Civic Award in November 2022.⁶

¹ <https://www.wandsworthwelcomesrefugees.org/post/oxfam-tooting-and-the-sewing-room>

²

<https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/news/2022-news/news-july-2022/wandsworth-to-become-a-borough-of-sanctuary-for-refugee-s/>

³ <https://www.wandsworthwelcomesrefugees.org/post/new-resource-to-help-refugees-find-local-support>

⁴ <https://www.wandsworthwelcomesrefugees.org/post/tech-appeal-thank-you-for-donating>

⁵ <https://www.wandsworthwelcomesrefugees.org/post/building-sanctuaries-in-wandsworth>

⁶ <https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/news/2022-news/news-november-2022/wandsworth-civic-award-winners-announced/>



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

andsworth Welcomes Refugees

1199527

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

7/1/2022

To

3/31/2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Bank Interest	1	-	-	1	-
Large one-off donations	2,120	-	-	2,120	-
Recurring donations	442	-	-	442	-
Fundraising on behalf of partners	-	75	-	75	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	2,563	75	-	2,638	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
None	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	2,563	75	-	2,638	-

A3 Payments

Bank fees	35	-	-	35	-
Insurance	99	-	-	99	-
Software	101	-	-	101	-

Printed materials	6	-	-	6	-
Pass through donations to partners	-	75	-	75	-
	-		-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	241	75	-	316	-

A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
None	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-

Total payments	241	75	-	316	-
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Net of receipts/(payments)	2,322	-	-	2,322	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	2,322	-	-	2,322	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash at bank	2,322	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,322	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
	None	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	Details			
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details			
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

B5 Liabilities

		-	-
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Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
None		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Florence Andrews	Florence Andrews	18/4/23
Sam Robins	Sam Robins	19/04/23