

THE SOMALI WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Accounts & Reports

For the period ended 31 August 2024

THE SOMALI WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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THE SOMALI WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Legal and Administrative Information

For the period ended 31 August 2024

Status: Charity registered in England & Wales

Charity number: 1205499

Office: Mail Box I
1 Thorpe Close
London
W10 5XL

Trustees:	Khadra Said	-Chair
	Istahil Abdulle	-Member
	Halima Nur	-Member

Bankers: Barclays Bank plc
Leicester
LE87 2BB

Accountants: Issa Associates
Chartered Certified Accountants
116 Cumberland House
80 Scrubs Lane
London
NW10 6RF

THE SOMALI WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Trustees' Report

For the period ended 31 August 2024

Introduction

The Trustees of the Somali Women's Association are pleased to present this report for the financial period ending 31 August 2024 outlining our charitable activities, impact, and financial position. The Somali Women's Association is a grassroots organisation committed to supporting Somali and other ethnic minority women, children, and young people in North Kensington. Through education, advocacy, and empowerment, we work to improve the lives of those facing social and economic barriers.

Objectives and Activities

Our primary objective is to provide educational support to disadvantaged children and young people aged 6-14 through our supplementary school. Held every Wednesday at the Supplementary School Resource Centre (SSRC), the school delivers Maths, English, and Science lessons, as well as Somali culture and language classes. We also organise educational trips, enrichment activities, and parental workshops to ensure holistic support for our learners.

Beyond education, the Somali Women's Association also provides advice and advocacy for parents struggling to navigate the UK education system and supports women experiencing hardship by connecting them with appropriate services.

Legal structure

The Somali Women's Association is a charity community organisation registered in England and Wales.

Financial statements

The trustees submit their trustees' report and financial statements for the period ended 31 August 2024.

Policies:

Reserve policy:

The trustees are endeavouring to build up its donor base with a view to having reserves equal to 6 months operating expenditure. This equates to £10,000.

Risk(s) review:

The trustees have recently reviewed the major risks faced by the charity organisation. The charity is heavily depending on year on year funding and is at risk of shortage of funding for its future programmes.

Trustees Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with Charity law.

THE SOMALI WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Trustees' Report (continued)

For the period ended 31 August 2024

The trustees oversee preparation of financial statements, select suitable accounting policies and make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent to give the true state of affairs of the charity.

Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity. They are elected and replaced as set out in the governing constitutional documents.

Achievements and Impact

Over the past year, we have supported 30 children and young people through our supplementary school, helping them to develop confidence in core subjects and improve their academic performance. Many of our former students have gone on to study at prestigious universities, demonstrating the long-term success of our interventions.

Our work extends beyond the classroom. We have provided mentoring and role models for Somali youth, addressing issues such as racism, discrimination, and lack of representation in education. By fostering a sense of cultural identity and community belonging, we help young people develop aspirations and resilience.

Through strategic partnerships, we have accessed capacity-building support and training opportunities, strengthening our ability to deliver high-quality, impactful programmes.

Financial Review

The Somali Women's Association has successfully secured funding from Young K&C Foundation, Westway Trust, and member contributions to support our core programmes. These funds have been instrumental in delivering our supplementary school, community advocacy, and women's empowerment initiatives, ensuring that we can provide essential services to those most in need.

We have implemented robust financial policies and controls to ensure the responsible management of funds. Our financial oversight includes regular budget monitoring, transparent reporting, and governance structures that align with charity best practices. These measures help us maintain compliance with regulatory requirements and ensure that all spending is directed towards our charitable objectives.

To safeguard our long-term sustainability, we are committed to building financial reserves that provide stability and allow us to respond to emerging community needs. We continue to seek opportunities to diversify our income streams, including securing additional grant funding, strengthening community contributions, and exploring partnerships that align with our mission.

By maintaining strong financial governance and careful strategic planning, we are well-positioned to ensure the Somali Women's Association remains financially resilient and able to continue delivering impactful services.

Future Plans

The Somali Women's Association is currently entirely volunteer-led, with no full-time staff members. While this reflects the dedication of our team, we recognise that to strengthen our impact, improve service delivery, and build long-term sustainability, we need to secure dedicated staff capacity.

THE SOMALI WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Trustees' Report (continued)

For the period ended 31 August 2024

Our priority is to obtain core funding support that will enable us to recruit a full-time staff member to drive the charity forward. This will provide the stability needed to develop strategic partnerships, expand our funding base, and ensure the efficient coordination of our programmes. Core funding will also allow us to improve governance, enhance organisational capacity, and maintain the high-quality support we provide to the community.

Alongside this, we will continue to **strengthen our volunteer network** and explore additional funding opportunities to ensure the Somali Women's Association remains resilient and able to meet the growing needs of those we support.

Governance and Structure

The Somali Women's Association is a registered charity 1205499, governed by a dedicated Board of Trustees. The Trustees oversee strategic direction, financial management, and compliance, ensuring the organisation operates in line with its charitable objectives. We are committed to maintaining strong governance, safeguarding policies, and financial accountability to uphold our mission.

Conclusion

The past year has been one of growth, learning, and resilience for the Somali Women's Association. Our work remains crucial in supporting Somali and ethnic minority families in North Kensington, and we are proud of the impact we continue to make. With strong financial planning, committed leadership, and a clear vision, we are well-positioned to build on our successes and deepen our impact in the years ahead.

This report was approved by the board and signed on its behalf by:



Khadra Said
Chair of the Trustees
The Somali Women's Association
Date: 15/01/2025

THE SOMALI WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Independent examiner's report

For the period ended 31 August 2024

I have examined the accounts on pages 5 to 6 which have been prepared on accruals basis.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees of the charity are responsible for the preparation of accounts; we consider that the audit requirement under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts, without performing an audit, and to report to trustees.

Basis of independent examiner's report

This report is in respect of an examination carried out under section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 and in accordance with the directions given by the charity commissioners under section 43(7)(b). An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity trustees and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes a review of the accounts and making such enquiries as are necessary for the purpose of this report. The procedures undertaken do not constitute an audit.

Independent examiner's statement

Based on my examination, no matter has come to attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect accounting records for the period ended 31 August 2024 have not been in accordance with section 41 of the Charities Act 1993, or that the accounts presented do not accord with those records or comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 1993. No matter has come to my attention in connection with my examination to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understating of the accounts to be reached.



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Chartered Certified Accountants
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80 Scrubs Lane
London NW10 6RF

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CUMBERLAND HOUSE, SUITE 116
80 SCRUBS LANE
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EMAIL: info@issaassociates.com

Date: 15 January 2025

THE SOMALI WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Statement of Financial Activities

For the period ending 31 August 2024

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 Total funds
	£	£	£
<i>Income</i>			
<i>Grants and Donations</i>			
Young Kensington & Chelsea	-	9,000	9,000
Westway Trust	-	4,887	4,887
Member contributions	3,340	-	3,340
	<u>3,340</u>	<u>13,887</u>	<u>17,227</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>			
Tutors and sessional workers	-	7,770	7,770
Volunteer costs	200	-	200
Rent & hall hire	-	1,260	1,260
Travel & refreshments	420	-	420
Legal & professional fees	2,400	-	2,400
	<u>3,020</u>	<u>9,030</u>	<u>12,050</u>
Total expenditure	3,020	9,030	12,050
Fund balance for the year	<u>320</u>	<u>4,857</u>	<u>5,177</u>
Balance brought forward	6,069	-	6,069
Balance carried forward	<u>6,389</u>	<u>4,857</u>	<u>11,246</u>

THE SOMALI WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Balance Sheet

For the period ended 31 August 2024

	Notes	£	2024 £
Fixed Assets:			
Tangible	3		-
Current Assets:			
Cash at bank and in hand	4	11,546	
		<u>11,546</u>	
Current liabilities payable within 1 year:			
Accrued expenses	5	(300)	
Net Current Assets			<u>11,246</u>
Total Assets less current liabilities			<u>11,246</u>
Represented by:			
Restricted funds			4,857
Unrestricted funds			6,389
Total funds			<u>11,246</u>

The statement of financial activities as set out on page 5 for the financial period ending 31 August 2024, and the statement of assets and liabilities as set out on this page are as approved by the Management Committee and signed on its behalf by:

Khadra Said
Chair

Dated: 15 January 2025

THE SOMALI WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Notes to the Accounts

For the period ended 31 August 2024

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" and applicable accounting standards.

2 Accounting Policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies, all of which have been applied consistently throughout the year is set out below.

2.1 *Income and expenditure*

All income and expenditure is accounted for on accrual basis.

2.2 *Fund Accounting*

General funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are funds subject to specific restrictive conditions imposed by donors.

2.2 *Tangible Fixed assets and Depreciation*

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost.

Provision for depreciation of fixed assets held for use by the charity is made at an annual rate of 25% on straight line basis.

2.3 *Charity status*

The charity is registered with the Charities Commission in England & Wales.

THE SOMALI WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Notes to the Accounts

For the period ending 31 August 2024

3 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Office equipment	Total
Costs	£	£
At 31 October 2023	-	-
Additions during the year	-	-
At 31 August 2024	-	-
Depreciation		
At 31 October 2023	-	-
Charge for the year	-	-
At 31 August 2024	-	-
Net Book value		
At 31 August 2024	-	-
At 31 October 2023	-	-

4 Cash in bank & at hand represents the remaining balance for continuing project and the Net Book Value of Fixed Assets at the end of the above period.

5	<i>Current liabilities payable within 1 year:</i>	2024 £
	Accruals	300
		300