



STOCKPORT REFUGEE SUPPORT GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Registered Charity Number 1213316

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Introducing Stockport Refugee Support Group

Stockport Refugee Support Group (SRSG) runs a weekly Saturday lunchtime drop-in for refugees and asylum seekers living in Stockport. We aim to provide a non-judgemental, multi-faith environment where other creeds, languages and cultures are respected. However, our visitors also learn from us about everyday life in the UK, which helps them to fit in with what must be a strange environment.

Our group was formed 25 years ago. In the face of growing hostility towards refugees, our drop-in demonstrates that many in Stockport welcome refugees and asylum seekers. Without it, our visitors would feel more isolated and excluded.

We provide:

- A space for visitors to sit and chat
- Outdoor and indoor play for children, including board games, crafts and sports
- Informal English conversation classes
- Sign posting to information and advice
- Explanation of the meaning of letters and other information that visitors receive
- Help with form filling
- A hot vegetarian meal
- A food parcel for every family, using food bought from [FareShare](#)
- Occasional trips to local attractions and advice sessions

Charitable status, trustees and how we are managed

SRSG existed as a voluntary group since 2001. In 2025, to enable greater access to funding, we registered with the Charity Commission as a CIO. Six members of the committee had several years of experience running the group, so it made sense for them to become the initial trustees. We also have committee members who are not trustees.

SRSR is entirely run by volunteers. There are no paid staff. We recruit volunteers through [Sector 3's Volunteer Hub](#) and by word of mouth. All our volunteers are DBS checked.

TRUSTEES AND OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS			
First name	Surname	Position	Role
Chetty	Walker	Trustee	Chair
Brigid	Rodgers	Trustee	Secretary
Pauline	Howell	Trustee	Treasurer
Joan	Bennett	Trustee	Funding
Rosemary	Jordan	Trustee	English conversation
Gillian	Gosling	Trustee	Children's activities
Helene	Wander	Committee Member	Volunteer liaison
Rand	Mohammed	Committee Member	Visitor liaison

New committee members are recruited from volunteers or visitors who have expressed an interest in taking on an active role with the charity.

The committee meets once a month on Zoom to discuss all aspects of the running of the group. Committee members share the following roles:

- Volunteer management
- Funding
- Finance
- English Conversation Classes
- Advice and signposting
- Children's Activities
- Annual review of safeguarding and health and safety policies

The committee members are also volunteers who regularly attend the drop-in, so there are many opportunities to observe and discuss the activities.

Our Activities April 2025 to March 2026

Over the year ending 31 March 2026 we:

- Welcomed over 200 refugees and asylum seekers to the drop-in. They made a total of **2198** visits, with an average of **45** visitors per week. This was 2.8% less than the previous year. But 2024-25 was exceptional, with the highest number of visits recorded since lockdown.
- The number of new visitors this year (**96**) was virtually the same as last year (98).
- Our visitors originated from 25 countries. Visits from Iraq formed the largest group (19%), followed by Somalia (16%), Sudan (15%), Syria (14%) and Pakistan (10%).
- On average, 10 volunteers helped at the drop-in each week. Volunteer availability has risen steadily since we lost several volunteers during lockdown. At the end of March 2026, we had 35 active volunteers.

The following people came to the drop-in to give advice to our visitors:

- Martin Handley from [Stockport Homes](#) came to speak to our visitors about housing. He was accompanied by John Clarke, the Communities and Inclusion lead for [Sector 3](#) (Stockport's charity support service.)
- The local community police officer spoke to visitors about reporting crime, keeping safe and being vigilant. The children were then shown around the police van, which he had parked in the yard, and were even allowed to try on the handcuffs, which they enjoyed immensely.
- Aba Graham, the leader of [SREP](#), also came to hold one to one advice sessions about immigration rights, which was very useful.

Outings to the seaside have been very popular in the past, but lack of sufficient funding made it impossible this year. However, a day trip is being organised for July 2026. Instead, an afternoon at Heaton Norris Park was organised in summer 2025, with games, henna painting, music and a delicious meal. Unfortunately, there was a bus drivers' strike and heavy rain all day, so attendees were few. Those who did brave the elements enjoyed the day immensely.

Our young visitors are given supervised indoor and outdoor play. The small area outside the church is cut off by removable gates and the church elders have kindly arranged for hooks to be applied to hang the gates on during the session, making it a safe environment. Two volunteers work inside and two look after the outdoor play area. Volunteers have donated toys which are gratefully received and made use of. The older children are a little harder to entertain, so the majority of children who attend are of primary school age.

We received an award from [Forever Manchester](#) in January 2026 recognising the work we are doing to improve the lives of our visitors.

Our objects and public benefit

Our Governing Document lists the following objects.

To provide relief to refugees and asylum seekers living in Stockport by the provision of a drop-in centre to provide support services so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt to a new community, with the objects of: -

(1) Relieving them from financial hardship and social isolation through the provision of food, a welcoming space and advice.

(2) Providing facilities for recreation and events with the object of improving the conditions of life of refugees and asylum seekers who have need of such facilities by reason of their social and economic circumstances.

Anyone who is a refugee or asylum seeker housed in Stockport may attend our Saturday drop-in. When new families arrive in Stockport, the council's Public Health Worker for Refugees tells them about the drop-in. Information about the drop-in is also spread via refugee networks, other refugee support organisations in the area and [Sector 3](#).

Financial summary 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026

During the financial year 2025/26, SRSG applied to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Once this was granted we had to apply for a new current bank account with Unity Bank, as our previous account was for voluntary organisations that were not registered charities. This process was completed in January 2026.

During the financial year we received grants of £2000 from [Forever Manchester](#)'s CDL Fund for outings and events and £16,826 from the National Lottery (Awards for All) for running costs for 2 years. Our other income came from personal donations from members of the public

As the NL grant was for a substantial amount, we opened a linked Savings account with Unity Bank and deposited £16,000.00 in it in February 2026. Withdrawals will be made at regular intervals to cover monthly running costs of the drop in over the next two years.

We also applied to HMRC to have SRSG registered as a charity for tax purposes. This was granted and we can now apply for Gift Aid repayments on personal donations.

SRSG does not have any outstanding debts and the balance of our current account as at 31/3/2026 was £3880.81 and savings account £16039.32

Registered address

24A Ernocroft Road,
Marple Bridge
Stockport
SK6 5DY

Email address

srsg2011@gmail.com

Accounts

STOCKPORT REFUGEE GROUP ACCOUNTS 1st April 2025 – 31st March 2026

INCOME

Donations from public	£394.00	
Forever Manchester CDL grant	£2,000.00	Cheshire Data
National Lottery fund grant	£16,826.00	
Deposit refund face painting	£65.00	
	£19,285.00	

EXPENDITURE

Emerge (Fareshare)	£365.78
Drop in food	£803.83
Bags and takeaway containers	£209.20
Insurance	£321.87
DBS forms	£283.50
Rent paid Tiviot Dale church	£5,148.00
Travel	£119.10
Play equipment	£223.52
Kitchen equipment	£64.05
Events (Christmas, Easter, Summer Party & Eid)	£1,241.89
ESOL	£25.88
Telephone/IT equipment	£98.96
Deposit for keys to Tiviot Dale	£75.00
Children's Hi vis vests	£66.97
Miscellaneous	£4.00
Installation of brackets for barriers	£97.56
Bank charges	£79.29
	£9,228.40

Current account

Opening balance 1/4/2025	£9,824.21
Plus income for the year	£19,285.00
Less expenditure	£9,228.40
Less transfer to savings account	£16,000.00
Closing balance 31/3/26	£3,880.81

Savings account

Opening balance 15/1/26	£0.00
Transfer from current account 14/2/26	£16,000.00
Interest received 31/3/26	£39.32
Closing balance 31/3/26	£16,039.32

Notes

Forever Manchester grant is specifically for special events - outings and parties

The National Lottery grant is for 2 years' operating costs (from 1/12/2025)

The Savings account was opened as we received £16,826.00 from the National Lottery and we

Accounts

isystems Ltd, Stockport =CDL

: are able to earn income on the balance

I & E

Date	Description	IN	OUT	Balance
01/04/25	Opening balance current account 20109813			£9,824.21
01/04/25	Tiviot Dale rent		£390.00	£9,434.21
03/04/25	Anonymous donation	£20.00		£9,454.21
04/04/25	Donation Jane Jordan	£54.00		£9,508.21
08/04/25	Deposit for keys to Tiviot Dale		£75.00	£9,433.21
09/04/25	Emerge (Fareshare)		£25.83	£9,407.38
29/04/25	Morton Michel (insurance)		£321.87	£9,085.51
30/04/25	Bank service charge		£6.00	£9,079.51
01/05/25	Tiviot Dale rent		£390.00	£8,689.51
01/05/25	Gill Gosling drop in expenses		£56.41	£8,633.10
06/05/25	Anonymous donation	£20.00		£8,653.10
13/05/25	Emerge (Fareshare)		£25.83	£8,627.27
30/05/25	Bank service charge		£6.00	£8,621.27
02/06/25	Tiviot Dale rent		£390.00	£8,231.27
03/06/25	Anonymous donation	£20.00		£8,251.27
04/06/25	Gill Gosling drop in expenses		£80.33	£8,170.94
06/06/25	Brigid Rodgers (drop in expenses)		£49.00	£8,121.94
11/06/25	Emerge (Fareshare)		£25.83	£8,096.11
27/06/25	Brigid Rodgers (drop in expenses)		£257.89	£7,838.22
30/06/25	Bank service charge		£6.00	£7,832.22
01/07/25	Tiviot Dale rent		£442.00	£7,390.22
03/07/25	Anonymous donation	£20.00		£7,410.22
04/07/25	Gill Gosling drop in expenses		£32.15	£7,378.07
10/07/25	Emerge (Fareshare)		£25.83	£7,352.24
31/07/25	Brigid Rodgers (drop in expenses)		£60.49	£7,291.75
31/07/25	Bank service charge		£6.00	£7,285.75
01/08/25	Tiviot Dale rent		£442.00	£6,843.75
04/08/25	Anonymous donation	£20.00		£6,863.75
07/08/25	Gill Gosling drop in expenses		£57.71	£6,806.04
12/08/25	Emerge (Fareshare)		£25.83	£6,780.21
18/08/25	Forever Manchester	£2,000.00		£8,780.21
31/08/25	Bank service charge		£6.00	£8,774.21
01/09/25	Tiviot Dale rent		£442.00	£8,332.21
02/09/25	Brigid Rodgers (drop in expenses)		£164.14	£8,168.07
03/09/25	Fran Devine (travel to Fareshare expenses)		£54.00	£8,114.07
03/09/25	Anonymous donation	£20.00		£8,134.07
03/09/25	Gill Gosling (drop in expenses)		£46.80	£8,087.27
03/09/25	Ruth Baldwin (drop in expenses)		£4.48	£8,082.79
10/09/25	Emerge (Fareshare)		£25.83	£8,056.96
16/09/25	Heaton Norris cafe (party food)		£510.00	£7,546.96
22/09/25	Mika Face painting		£190.00	£7,356.96
22/09/25	Heaton Norris community centre hire fee		£80.00	£7,276.96
26/09/25	Mika face painting (refund deposit)	£65.00		£7,341.96
30/09/25	Bank service charge		£6.00	£7,335.96
01/10/25	Tiviot Dale rent		£442.00	£6,893.96
03/10/25	Anonymous donation	£20.00		£6,913.96
13/10/25	Emerge (Fareshare)		£25.83	£6,888.13
13/10/25	Brigid Rodgers (drop in expenses)		£140.91	£6,747.22
13/10/25	Gill Gosling drop in expenses		£122.26	£6,624.96

I & E

31/10/25	Bank service charge		£6.00	£6,618.96
03/11/25	Tiviot Dale rent		£442.00	£6,176.96
03/11/25	Anonymous donation	£20.00		£6,196.96
06/11/25	Brigid Rodgers (drop in expenses)		£145.23	£6,051.73
06/11/25	Gill Gosling drop in expenses		£46.33	£6,005.40
10/11/25	Emerge (Fareshare)		£25.83	£5,979.57
28/11/25	Lottery grant	£16,826.00		£22,805.57
28/11/25	A.P. Hughes (barrier brackets)		£97.56	£22,708.01
30/11/25	Bank service charge		£6.00	£22,702.01
01/12/25	Tiviot Dale rent		£442.00	£22,260.01
01/12/25	Gill Gosling (drop in expenses)		£24.66	£22,235.35
03/12/25	Anonymous donation	£20.00		£22,255.35
11/12/25	Mika Face painting		£165.00	£22,090.35
11/12/25	Emerge (Fareshare)		£25.83	£22,064.52
15/12/25	Gill Gosling (drop in expenses)		£73.39	£21,991.13
17/12/25	Rand Mohammed (party expenses)		£58.24	£21,932.89
17/12/25	Brigid Rodgers (drop in expenses)		£221.06	£21,711.83
19/12/25	Rand Mohammed (party expenses)		£35.00	£21,676.83
31/12/25	Bank service charge		£6.00	£21,670.83
02/01/26	Tiviot Dale rent		£442.00	£21,228.83
05/01/26	Anonymous donation	£20.00		£21,248.83
13/01/26	Emerge (Fareshare)		£25.83	£21,223.00
20/01/26	Donation P. Martin	£50.00		£21,273.00
23/01/26	Pauline Howell (kitchen equipment)		£57.09	£21,215.91
31/01/26	Bank service charge		£6.00	£21,209.91
01/02/26	Tiviot Dale rent		£442.00	£20,767.91
03/02/26	Anonymous donation	£20.00		£20,787.91
03/02/26	Gill Gosling drop in expenses		£85.54	£20,702.37
09/02/26	Brigid Rodgers (drop in expenses)		£143.35	£20,559.02
12/02/26	Service charge – payout		£9.00	£20,550.02
12/02/26	ACCOUNT CLOSED			

NEW CURRENT ACCOUNT 20547242

01/02/26	Opening balance			£0.00
06/02/26	Donation	£50.00		£50.00
12/02/26	Balance transfer from account 20109813	£20,550.02		£20,600.02
14/02/26	Transfer to savings account		£16,000.00	£4,600.02
16/02/26	Emerge (Fareshare)		£25.83	£4,574.19
19/02/26	Jane Jordan ESOL expenses		£17.98	£4,556.21
27/02/26	Brigid Rodgers (drop in expenses)		£140.52	£4,415.69
28/02/26	Bank service charge		£3.29	£4,412.40
02/03/26	Tiviot Dale rent		£442.00	£3,970.40
03/03/26	Anonymous donation	£20.00		£3,990.40
04/03/26	Gill Gosling (drop in expenses)		£54.11	£3,936.29
12/03/26	Emerge (Fareshare)		£25.83	£3,910.46
31/03/26	Rand Mohammed (party expenses)		£22.65	£3,887.81
31/03/26	Bank service charge		£7.00	£3,880.81
31/03/26	Closing balance			£3,880.81
	Savings account			
15/01/26	Opening balance	£0.00		

I & E

14/02/26	Transfer from current account	£16,000.00
31/03/26	Interest received	£39.32
31/03/26	Closing balance	£16,039.32

TOTAL

I & E

Rent	Fareshare	Travel	Drop in food	Bags/containers	Kitchen equipment	Play equipment
£390.00						
	£25.83					
£390.00			£28.93	£4.50		£18.98
	£25.83					
£390.00			£68.34	£6.00		£5.99
			£40.30	£8.70		
	£25.83		£51.30	£20.10		£64.99
£442.00						
			£16.23	£8.94		£6.98
	£25.83		£35.49	£25.00		
£442.00						
			£47.96	£1.75		£8.00
	£25.83					
£442.00			£47.88	£28.27		
		£54.00				
			£37.90	£7.50	£1.40	
			£4.48			
	£25.83					
£442.00						
	£25.83		£36.48	£27.50		
			£80.08			£42.18

			I & E			
£442.00						
	£55.82			£16.00		£9.92
			£28.44			9.99
	£25.83					
£442.00						
			£13.71	£10.95		
	£25.83					
			31.23			2
		£9.90	44.68	£19.60		
£442.00						
	£25.83					
					£57.09	
£442.00						
			£52.17	£2.00	£2.38	£28.99
		£19.80	£56.79	£17.60	£3.18	
	£25.83					
		£35.40	£42.07	£4.79		£10.76
£442.00						
			39.37			14.74
	25.83					

I & E

£5,148.00	£365.78	£119.10	£803.83	£209.20	£64.05	£223.52
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I & E						
Volunteer expenses	ESOL	Telephone/IT	DBS	Training	insurance	Miscellaneous

£75.00

£321.87

£4.00 ..

£121.50

£22.99

£66.97

I & E

£7.90 £22.99 £40.50

£97.56

£81.00

£45.98

£17.98 £7.00 £40.50

I & E

£4.00	£25.88	£98.96	£283.50	£0.00	£321.87	£239.53
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I & E

Events	Bank charges	TOTAL
		£0.00
		£390.00
		£0.00
		£0.00
		£75.00
		£25.83
		£321.87
	£6.00	£6.00
		£390.00
		£56.41
		£0.00
		£25.83
	£6.00	£6.00
		£390.00
		£0.00
		£80.33
		£49.00
		£25.83
		£257.89
	£6.00	£6.00
		£442.00
		£0.00
		£32.15
		£25.83
		£60.49
	£6.00	£6.00
		£442.00
		£0.00
		£57.71
		£25.83
		£0.00
	£6.00	£6.00
		£442.00
£65.00		£164.14
		£54.00
		£0.00
		£46.80
		£4.48
		£25.83
£510.00		£510.00
£190.00		£190.00
£80.00		£80.00
		£0.00
	£6.00	£6.00
		£442.00
		£0.00
		£25.83
£9.96		£140.91
		£122.26

I & E

	£6.00	£6.00
		£442.00
		£0.00
		£145.23
		£46.33
		£25.83
		£0.00
		£97.56
	£6.00	£6.00
		£442.00
		£24.66
		£0.00
£165.00		£165.00
		£25.83
40.16		£73.39
£58.24		£58.24
£65.88		£221.06
£35.00		£35.00
	£6.00	£6.00
		£442.00
		£0.00
		£25.83
		£0.00
		£57.09
	£6.00	£6.00
		£442.00
		£0.00
		£85.54
		£143.35
	£9.00	£9.00
		0
		£0.00
		£0.00
		£0.00
		£0.00
		£0.00
		£0.00
		£25.83
		£17.98
		£140.52
	£3.29	£3.29
		£442.00
		£0.00
		£54.11
		£25.83
£22.65		£22.65
	£7.00	£7.00
		£0.00
		£9,228.40

I & E

£1,241.89	£79.29	£9,228.40
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