

Company Registration No: 2019000
Charity Registration No. 294516

ASHA PROJECTS
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEE'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

BHARAT SHAH & CO
Chartered Accountants
786 London Road
Thornton Heath
Surrey, CR7 6JB

ASHA PROJECTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

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ASHA PROJECTS
Company Information**Charity Number**

294516

Company registration number

2019000

Registered office13 Shrubbery Road
London
SW16 2AS**Trustees (Management Committee)**P. Vadgama
S. Anitha
K.Chahel
B. Ahmed
C. Dagli
J. Kalathil**Senior staff members**I Patel
J Chana**Independent Examiners**Bharat Shah & Co
Chartered Accountants
786 London Road
Thornton Heath
Surrey
CR7 6JB**Bankers**The Co-Operative Bank plc
91 George Street
Croydon
CR9 3QT

ASHA PROJECTS

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

The trustees present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022.

The financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, governing documents, Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Structure Governance and Management

Asha is a charitable company limited by guarantee incorporated in 1986 and governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association. The company is established for the objects expressed in the memorandum of Association for the advancement of education, the relief of poverty, sickness, the preservation of health and any other charitable purpose for the benefit of the community (with particular regard to women of South Asian origin) in the UK.

Recruitment and Appointment of Management Committee members

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law, and under the company's articles are known as members of the Management Committee. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, they hold office until the end of the next Annual General Meeting and are eligible for re-election.

The Management Committee is appointed for the knowledge, skills, experience, and commitment they bring to meet Asha's charitable aims and objectives. Asha has an induction programme for new committee members, and they all have the opportunity of accessing training and on-going support. The Management Committee meet at least once every three months and are responsible for strategic direction, setting, delegating, and overseeing systems and controls, policy work, monitoring performance, and managing Asha's resources responsibly.

Financial procedures have been implemented to establish the delegation of authority over financial matters; control over the organisation's income and expenditure, the protection of its assets and for budgeting and managing the organisations finances.

The Management Committee bears overall responsibility of Asha and delegates the day to day running of the organisation to the Director.

Risk Management

The Management Committee have overall responsibility for managing risks at Asha. Assessing and monitoring, risks is an ongoing process throughout the year and embedded in governance and the organisational systems. This enables the management committee and staff team to make informed decisions. Since Covid-19 we have ensured that business continuity plans, operational and health and safety risk assessments are reviewed and updated regularly and as and when needed.

ASHA PROJECTS

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 (CONTINUED)

Organisational Structure

Asha's Management Committee is responsible for the overall direction and the strategic focus of the organisation. The day-to-day responsibility is managed by the director, housing manager and the front-line staff.

Objectives and Activities

Asha's vision is to live in a just and sustainable world. Our mission is to challenge inequalities and empower South Asian women to build lives free of violence, oppression, and exploitation.

Our aims include:

1. Supporting and empowering South Asian women experiencing domestic abuse.
2. Ensuring justice for women at policy level.
3. Strengthening Asha to be organisationally and economically sustainable.
4. Working in partnership and in solidarity with other individuals and organisations.

Asha operates from four sites – a resource centre and three refuges consisting of 19 bed spaces. We provide safe temporary accommodation, information, advice, and a volunteering programme for women. One of the refuges (7 bedspaces) is dedicated to young women who are 18 – 25 years old.

We also develop and deliver training based on the needs of South Asian women, the wider community, and other organisations. This includes basic issue-based training on different discriminations especially around the protected characteristics, rights, and the different power dynamics.

Our support is provided both in English and the main South Asian languages, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Punjabi, and Urdu

Volunteer Help

Asha is committed to volunteers helping us support our work. With their varied knowledge, skills and experience they complement, enrich, and extend the resources of the organisation. Volunteers are involved in activities such as supporting the work with women and their children, helping with practical issues relating to the upkeep of the organisation, promotional work with stakeholders and local organisations, and general and financial administration.

ASHA PROJECTS

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 (CONTINUED)

Achievements and Performance

Asha Projects is a dedicated by and for South Asian women's organisation working to end violence against women and girls (VAWG). During this year we supported 485 women and 38 stayed at our refuges.

Asha has over 40 years of experience and understanding of the issues and has developed unique participatory systems that are women-friendly and enable us to respond to the needs of individual women. These will be different due to their unique and varied experiences. We recognise the importance of specialist organisations, which play a crucial role beyond language-specific provision and interpretation services. Asha provides much needed support based on an understanding of socio-cultural norms, values and issues relating to forms of violence against women and girls that are specific to South Asian communities. Through Asha, vulnerable women take the first step in rebuilding their confidence, wider relationships and ultimately the future for themselves and their children.

Asha collaborates with agencies and partners who share our vision to build solidarity, support each other, share resources, and ensure a consistent and holistic approach to meet the needs of South Asian women. We work in collaboratively locally and London-wide, and are a member of the OYA Consortium, a group of five "by and for" black and minority VAWG organisations in London.

The challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic continued to affect us. Our priority remained the safety of our residents, children, and staff members. We kept in place the same safety measures such as wearing masks, practicing social distancing, deep cleaning at the refuges, and regular testing. Staff members continued to work remotely and from the refuges and office. We worked together to manage risks, review our risk assessments and business continuity plan, and solve any issues that arise. Front-line agencies are providing more support online, which has resulted in longer wait times for clients seeking support. Demand for refuge space remains high, and we have seen an increase in clients with complex needs.

In addition to the ongoing pandemic, we are also facing a cost-of-living crisis that affects our clients, staff, and organization. To help those in need, we have worked with other organisations, food banks, applied for individual grants, and extended our internal hardship fund.

Having access to secure and affordable housing plays a crucial role in a survivor's journey towards recovery and rebuilding their lives. Of the 21 women who left the refuge, 15 were successfully housed by Lambeth Council in long-term social housing. The process of application and assessment was efficient, and the women were given the option to decline a property if they deemed it unsuitable. They reported feeling settled in their new homes. However, for the 4 women who moved to temporary accommodation provided by other local authorities, the process was incredibly difficult. They faced obstacles such as difficulty contacting the borough and receiving little to no response, as well as gatekeeping, at every stage. As a result, their mental and physical health deteriorated, and they do not feel settled.

ASHA PROJECTS**TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 (CONTINUED)****Our plans for the future include:**

- Continue strengthening Asha to become more financially and operationally sustainable.
- Expanding our advice and outreach programs to reach more people.
- Launching a counselling programme to provide additional support.
- Building up general reserves for future needs
- Obtaining a quality mark to demonstrate our commitment to excellence.

The Management Committee would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our funders and supporters for their ongoing support. We also want to acknowledge the dedication, commitment, and inspiring efforts of our staff and volunteers, who have done an exceptional job, especially during these trying times.

Financial review

In the year April 2021 to March 2022, the charity saw an increase in its activities.

The additional support required by women and staff members due to the Covid-19 pandemic was made possible through the continued funding from MHCLG via Latin American Women's Aid (LAWA).

The charity provides pension scheme contributions for our employees, which are reflected in the statement of financial activities for the year. The charity has no other liabilities under this scheme beyond these contributions.

The Management Committee has carefully evaluated the charity's need for reserves and established a policy to build the general fund to provide 6-12 months of running costs.

ASHA PROJECTS**TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022 (CONTINUED)****Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The trustees (who are also directors of Asha Projects for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant accounting information of which the charitable company's examiners are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant accounting information and to establish that the examiners are aware of that information.

Appointment of Independent Examiner

Bharat Shah, Chartered Accountant has expressed his willingness to stand for reappointment and a resolution proposing his reappointment will be put forward at the Trustees Meeting.

Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees on 6.02.23 signed on their behalf.

On behalf of the board



Chairperson – P Vadgama

ASHA PROJECTS**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ASHA PROJECTS**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set on pages 9 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of ICAEW.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners' report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiners' statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met, or

ASHA PROJECTS

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ASHA PROJECTS
(CONTINUED)**

2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Bharat Shah

Bharat Shah (Independent Examiner)
For and on behalf of Bharat Shah & Co
Chartered Accountants

786 London Road
Thornton Heath
Surrey, CR7 6JB

Date: 07/02/23

Statement of financial activitiesIncome and Expenditure accountsFor the year ended 31 March 2022

Particulars		Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
		Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<u>Incoming resources</u>					
<u>Charitable Trading</u>					
Rental Income		317,310	-	317,310	303,390
Income from Solace Women's Aid	[2]	91,323	-	91,323	84,915
Grant Income (LAWA)	[2]	45,295	-	45,295	71,499
Management Fee - Metropolitan Thames Valley Housing		5,304		5,304	7,514
<u>Other Income</u>					
Bank Interest		34	-	34	380
Sundry Income		10,593	-	10,593	905
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		469,859	0	469,859	468,603
<u>RESOURCES EXPENDED</u>					
Costs of Charitable Activities	[3]	409,189	-	409,189	417,003
Governance Costs	[4]	5,622	-	5,622	10,418
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		414,811	-	414,811	427,421
Surplus /(Deficit) for the year		55,048	0	55,048	41,182
Before transfers between funds					
Transfers between Funds		-	-	-	-
Total Funds Brought forward		206,672	-	206,672	165,490
Total Funds Carried forward		261,719	0	261,719	206,672

Continuing operations

None of the company's activities were acquired or discontinued during the current and previous years.

Total recognised gains and losses

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than the surplus for the current and previous years.

Statement of Financial Position As At 31 March 2022

		<u>2022</u>		<u>2021</u>	
	<u>NOTES</u>	£	£	£	£
<u>Fixed assets</u>					
Tangible Assets	[08]		5,845		2,626
<u>Current assets</u>					
Debtors	[09]	26,986		16,632	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>339,352</u>		<u>243,079</u>	
		366,338		259,711	
<u>Creditors: Amount falling due within one year</u>	[10]	<u>(110,465)</u>		<u>(55,665)</u>	
<u>Net current assets</u>			255,873		204,046
<u>Net asset</u>			<u>261,719</u>		<u>206,672</u>
<u>Funds</u>					
Unrestricted Funds	[11]		261,719		206,672
Restricted Funds	[12]		0		0
<u>Total Funds</u>			<u>261,719</u>		<u>206,672</u>


For the year ending 31 March 2022, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- 1) The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- 2) The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the small companies' regime.

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 6.02.23 and signed on their behalf by



Chairperson - P Vadgama

Notes to financial statements**For the year ended 31 March 2022****1. Accounting policies****1.1 Status of the company**

Asha Projects is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards any deficit arising in the event of the company being wound up.

1.2 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees confirm that they have reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing these financial statements.

1.3 Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was needed. No restatements were required.

1.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings & equipment - 20% Reducing balance

1.7 Taxation

The charity is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is not therefore subject to taxation on its charitable activities. The charity is not registered for VAT and resources expended therefore include irrecoverable input VAT.

1.8 Funds

All income and expenditure is dealt with through the SOFA. All funds are classified as restricted or unrestricted, defined as follows:

- (a) Restricted funds are funds subject to specific declaration by the donor and expendable in furtherance of a particular activity.
- (b) Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the aims of the charity.
- (c) Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for a particular purpose.

Notes to financial statements (Continued)**For the year ended 31 March 2022****2. Income**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Receipts from Solace Women's Aid	91,323	0	91,323	84,915
Grant Aid from MHCLG via LAWA	45,295	0	45,295	71,499
	<u>136,618</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>136,618</u>	<u>156,414</u>

Income from Solace Women's Aid is as per contractual agreement between Asha Project and Solace Women's Aid.

3. Cost of Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Staff Costs	198,772	0	198,772	200,493
Premises Costs	88,905	0	88,905	82,729
Office Costs	22,107	0	22,107	22,771
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,238	0	1,238	17,154
Housing Management Expenses	86,330	0	86,330	88,753
Training and Management Committee Expenses	7,185	0	7,185	940
Travelling and transport	1,000	0	1,000	1,090
Bank Charges	592	0	592	810
Depreciation of Fixed Assets	1,461	0	1,461	656
Staff Expenses	1,598	0	1,598	1,605
	<u>409,189</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>409,189</u>	<u>417,003</u>

Note 6

4. Governance Costs

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Payroll and Bookkeeping Fees	617	0	617	602
Independent Examiner's Fees	2,040	0	2,040	2,040
Accountancy fees	2,900	0	2,900	3,500
Legal and Professional Fees	65	0	65	4,276
	<u>5,622</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,622</u>	<u>10,418</u>

5. Net incoming resources for the year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Net incoming resources is stated after charging:		
Depreciation and other amounts written off tangible fixed assets	<u>1,461</u>	<u>656</u>

Notes to financial statements (Continued)**For the year ended 31 March 2022****6. Employees**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	155,617	157,727
Employer's NI contributions	13,900	14,233
Pension	29,256	28,533
	<u>198,772</u>	<u>200,493</u>

7. Taxation

No liability to UK corporation tax arises on ordinary activities for the current or previous year.

The charity is registered with H M Revenue & Customs as charitable so not liable to UK corporation tax.

8. Tangible fixed assets

	<u>Fixtures & Fittings</u>	<u>Total</u>
	£	£
Cost		
At 1 April 2021	114,368	114,368
Additions	4,681	4,681
At 31 March 2022	<u>119,049</u>	<u>119,049</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2021	111,742	111,742
Charge for the year	1,461	1,461
At 31 March 2022	<u>113,204</u>	<u>113,204</u>
Net book values		
At 31 March 2022	<u>5,845</u>	<u>5,845</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>2,626</u>	<u>2,626</u>

9. Debtors

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
Debtors - Rent Receivable	26,986	16,632
	<u>26,986</u>	<u>16,632</u>

Notes to financial statements (Continued)**For the year ended 31 March 2022****10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other Creditors and Deferred Income	51,853	17,007
Other Taxation and Social Security	4,384	(0)
Accruals	54,228	38,658
	110,465	55,665

11. Unrestricted funds

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenses	Transfers	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£	£
Renewal and replacement fund	21,953			0	21,953
Internal decoration fund	18,000			0	18,000
Employers contractual obligations	75,000			0	75,000
Residents recreation	0			0	0
Hardship	6,000	0		0	6,000
Project and capacity building fund	18,000			0	18,000
Total Designated Funds	138,953	0	0	0	138,953
General funds	67,719	469,859	(414,811)	0	122,766
Total Unrestricted Funds	206,672	469,859	(414,811)	0	261,719

12. Restricted funds

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenses	Transfers	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds	0	0	0	0	0

13. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	5,845	0	5,845	2,626
Cash at bank and in hand	339,352	0	339,352	243,079
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(83,479)	0	(83,479)	(39,033)
	261,719	0	261,719	206,672

Notes to financial statements (Continued)For the year ended 31 March 2022**14. Analysis of Spend of MHCLG Covid-19 emergency funding (via LAWA) for By and for BME specialist refuge provision
- Section 37 Notice**

Grant Aid of £45,295 was received in year 2021/22 from MHCLG (via Latin American Women's Aid (LAWA)) for Domestic Abuse safe accommodation Covid-19 emergency support. The following table illustrates what the money was awarded for and that it has been used for these purposes.

	<u>Grant</u> <u>(£)</u>	<u>Grant spent</u> <u>(£)</u>
Staffing cover (cost of additional staff hours and to cover Covid-19 related absences)	20,278	20,278
Additional Covid-19 related costs (such as deep cleaning and the purchasing of essential items and hardship for service users)	15,400	15,400
Office equipment related costs (to enable remote working where relevant)	1,936	1,936
Other costs (additional clinical supervision, IT remote support, monitoring and evaluation and management and admin costs)	7,681	7,681
	45,295	45,295