

# Gambians and friends in Scotland Community Association

Scotland · Charity number SC052339

## Details

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Status	Active
Legal form	SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Registered	2023-02-22
Register	<a href="#">View on the OSCR register</a>

## Contact

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Address 22 Bressay Grove  
Glasgow  
Glasgow  
G33 1BS

## Activities

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**Activities:** 'It carries out activities or services itself'

**Purposes:** 'the advancement of education', 'the advancement of citizenship or community development', 'the advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science', 'the promotion of religious or racial harmony'

**What the charity does:** Our Core Objectives 1. Advancement of Citizenship We are committed to promoting active citizenship and fostering a sense of community within the Gambian diaspora residing in Scotland. This includes encouraging engagement, participation, and a sense of responsibility among Gambians in their communities. 2. Advancement of Education The organisation supports both formal and informal education initiatives aimed at the Gambian community in Scotland. This encompasses not only traditional academic learning but also life skills and personal development, ensuring individuals are well equipped for personal and professional growth. 3. Advancement of Arts, Heritage, and Cultures A key purpose is to celebrate and advance the arts, heritage, and cultures of both The Gambia and Scotland. This objective seeks to benefit Gambians living in Scotland as well as the wider public, fostering greater understanding and appreciation of the rich cultural traditions of both nations.

**Beneficiaries:** 'People with a particular ethnic or racial origin'

**Objectives:** The organisation's purposes are: (a) The advancement of citizenship and among the Gambian community in Scotland. (b) The advancement of formal and informal education among the Gambian community in Scotland, including life and personal development skills. (c) The advancement of the arts, heritage, and cultures of The Gambia and Scotland, amongst Gambians living in Scotland and the wider general public. (d) The promotion of racial harmony

## Geography

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- **Main operating location:** Glasgow City
- **Geographical spread:** More than one local authority area in Scotland

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£29,761	£34,536	-	0
2024-12-31	£55,326	£36,956	-	0
2023-12-31	£17,945	£14,743	-	0

**Gambians and friends in Scotland Community Association**

Scotland - Charity number SC052339

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# Accounts

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**APPENDIX 1**



GAMBIANS AND FRIENDS  
IN SCOTLAND COMMUNITY  
ASSOCIATION

Trustees' Annual Report for the period							
Period start date				Period end date			
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	01	01	2024	To	31	12	2024

**Reference and administration details**

Charity name	GAMBIANS AND FRIENDS IN SCOTLAND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
Other names charity is known by	
Registered charity number	SC052339
Charity's principal address	[REDACTED]

**Names of the charity trustees on date of approval of Trustees' Annual Report**

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	[REDACTED]	Chairman		
2	[REDACTED]	Secretary		
3	[REDACTED]	Treasurer		
4	[REDACTED]	Funding Coordinator		
5	[REDACTED]	Vice Chair		
6	[REDACTED]			
7				
8				
9				
10				

**Reference and administration details**

**Names of all other charity trustees during the period, if any, (for example, those who resigned part way through the financial period)**

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

## Structure, governance and management

<b>Type of governing document</b>	The charity is governed by a board of trustees in accordance with its constitution, who are tasked with establishing strategic direction, monitoring organisational performance, and ensuring compliance with legal and regulatory obligations. The board convenes regularly to oversee the charity's activities and financial operations. Policies and procedures are periodically evaluated to maintain the efficiency and transparency of the charity's operations.
<b>Trustee recruitment and appointment</b>	Trustees are selected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) via a democratic voting procedure conducted by the membership. This process upholds principles of fairness, transparency, and accountability in trustee selection, and provides members with meaningful participation in the charity's governance.

## Objectives and activities

<b>Charitable purposes</b>	<p><b>Our Core Objectives</b> The organisation is established to pursue the following purposes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Advancement of Citizenship</b> We are committed to promoting active citizenship and fostering a sense of community within the Gambian diaspora residing in Scotland. This includes encouraging engagement, participation, and a sense of responsibility among Gambians in their communities.</li> <li><b>2. Advancement of Education</b> The organisation supports both formal and informal education initiatives aimed at the Gambian community in Scotland. This encompasses not only traditional academic learning but also life skills and personal development, ensuring individuals are well equipped for personal and professional growth.</li> <li><b>3. Advancement of Arts, Heritage, and Cultures</b> A key purpose is to celebrate and advance the arts, heritage, and cultures of both The Gambia and Scotland. This objective seeks to benefit Gambians living in Scotland as well as the wider public, fostering greater understanding and appreciation of the rich cultural traditions of both nations.</li> <li><b>4. Promotion of Racial Harmony</b> The organisation is dedicated to promoting racial harmony. Through its activities and initiatives, it aims to encourage mutual respect, understanding, and peaceful coexistence among diverse communities.</li> </ol>
<b>Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects</b>	<p><b>GAMSCA Community Activities and Highlights: March 2024 – February 2025</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. March 2024: Community Learning and Development Training</b> GAMSCA conducted CLD training funded by the Scottish Government, covering youth work, safeguarding, GDPR, and mental health. Members gained essential skills for supporting children, young people, and families.</li> <li><b>2. April 2024: ACEP Funding Secured</b> GAMSCA received National Lottery funding to start ACEP, offering inclusive arts workshops to foster creativity, unity, and confidence among diverse families and youth.</li> <li><b>3. May 2024: Launch of GAMSCA Youth</b> GAMSCA Youth launched to empower young voices, with a successful first online session led by supportive youth workers.</li> <li><b>4. June 2024: Refugee Festival Scotland</b> GAMSCA joined Refugee Festival Scotland at Glasgow Green, celebrating resilience and diversity through music, dance, and shared culture.</li> <li><b>5. August 2024 – February 2025: Community Events and Workshops</b> GAMSCA hosted events including gambling awareness, anti-racism and inclusion workshops, E-visa and substance use sessions (with certificates), an end-of-year celebration for youth, and benefit information sessions, maintaining its focus on education and community support.</li> </ol>

## Achievements and performance

<p><b>Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the financial period</b></p>	<p>GAMSCA is committed to addressing hardship, enhancing educational opportunities, and promoting cultural understanding among Gambians and the broader African community in Scotland. Operating in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the organisation seeks to deliver substantive benefits to the community through a diverse portfolio of programmes and initiatives.</p> <p><b>Achievements and Performance</b>          From January 2024 to December 2024, GAMSCA executed a comprehensive range of cultural, educational, and welfare activities aimed at supporting and uniting members of the community. Notable achievements during this period include the coordination of significant events such as the Gambian Independence Day celebrations, the Annual Cultural Festival, Refugee Festival Scotland, Eid gatherings, and a children's end-of-year party. Particularly noteworthy was Refugee Festival Scotland, which featured music, storytelling, and cuisine under the theme "RISE". This event was instrumental in promoting inclusion and facilitating cross-cultural understanding within the local community.</p> <p>Another major accomplishment was the initiation of the three-year Artistic Community Engagement Programme (ACEP), funded by the National Lottery. This programme offered creative workshops in music, dance, and visual arts for children, young people, and families, fostering confidence, wellbeing, and cultural expression throughout the community.</p> <p>Additional initiatives included the formation of the GAMSCA Youth Group, summer football programmes, and a series of educational workshops covering safeguarding, anti-racism, gambling, substance use, the E-visa process, and social security. These sessions were conducted in collaboration with partners such as the Scottish Government, Home Office, and Social Security Scotland. Furthermore, a partnership project with Cycling UK facilitated the provision of bicycles to community members, helping to reduce barriers to participation and encourage active engagement.</p> <p><b>Public Benefit</b>          GAMSCA's comprehensive programmes have established safe and inclusive environments for learning, cultural celebration, and community support for children, young people, and families. By implementing these initiatives, the organisation has effectively promoted diversity and cohesion, greatly benefiting the Gambian and wider African community while strengthening connections throughout Glasgow and beyond.</p>
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## Financial review

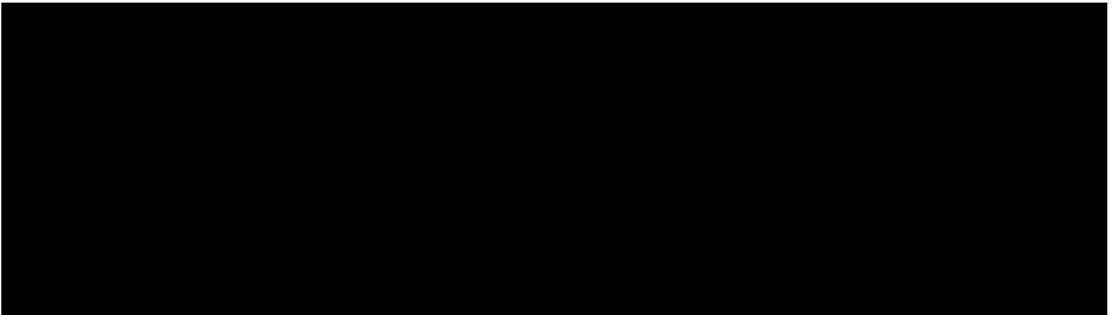
<p><b>Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves</b></p>	<p><b>Financial Review and Reserves</b>          Throughout the reporting period, GAMSCA's income was generated from three main sources: subscriptions, various fundraising activities, and grants. These streams have enabled the organisation to maintain robust financial health and support its wide-ranging programmes.</p> <p>GAMSCA has implemented a careful approach to managing its reserves, with dedicated funds allocated to specific areas of need. Reserves are strictly ring-fenced for funeral assistance and for responding to hardship and serious accidents within the community. In addition, unrestricted funds are maintained to support youth initiatives and broader community projects, ensuring resources are available for ongoing development and engagement.</p> <p><b>Future Plans</b>          Looking ahead, the trustees are committed to sustaining the organisation's programmes and enhancing their impact. Key priorities include further strengthening governance structures and processes, as well as building long-term financial resilience. These efforts will help to ensure GAMSCA's continued ability to deliver valuable support and opportunities to the community.</p>
<p><b>Details of any deficit</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Donated facilities and services (if any)</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>

**Other optional information**

**Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.


Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature(s)</b> <i>OSCR will accept digital or typed signatures</i>		
<b>Full name(s)</b>		
<b>Position (e.g. Chair)</b>	Chairman	Treasurer
<b>Date</b>	03/09/2025	03/09/2025

**Gambians and Friends in Scotland Community Association (SC052339)**

Receipts and Payments Accounts For the period from 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

**Section A: Statement of Receipts and Payments**

 GAMSCA	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Expendable Endowment (£)	Permanent Endowment (£)	Total Current Period (£) 31/12/2024	Total Last Period (£) 31/12/2023
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**A1 Receipts**

Donations	2,663				2,663	2,202
Emergency Contributions		3,335			3,335	3,500
Grants	1,000	37,688			38,688	9,540
Fundraising Activities	6,242				6,242	2,703
Other Charitable Activities	2,219	2,180			4,399	
<b>A1 Sub total</b>	<b>12,123</b>	<b>43,203</b>			<b>55,326</b>	<b>17,945</b>

**A3 Payments**

Fundraising Expenses	7,074				7,074	
Charitable Activities		29,882			29,882	14,743
<b>A3 Sub total</b>	<b>7,074</b>	<b>29,882</b>			<b>36,956</b>	<b>14,743</b>

**A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements**

Purchases of fixed assets						
Purchase of investments						
<b>A4 Sub total</b>						

<b>Total payments</b>	<b>7,074</b>	<b>29,882</b>			<b>36,956</b>	<b>14,743</b>
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<b>Net receipts / (payments)</b>	<b>5,049</b>	<b>13,321</b>			<b>18,370</b>	<b>3,202</b>
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<b>A5 Transfers to / (from) funds</b>						
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<b>Surplus / (deficit) for year</b>	<b>5,049</b>	<b>13,321</b>			<b>18,370</b>	<b>3,202</b>
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**Section B: Statement of Balances****B1 Cash funds**

Cash and bank balances at start of year	6,499	15,105			21,604	10,761
Surplus / (deficit) shown on receipts and payments account	5,049	13,321			18,370	7,656
<b>Total Cash Funds</b>	<b>11,548</b>	<b>28,426</b>			<b>39,974</b>	<b>18,417</b>

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		03/09/2025
		03/09/2025



Registered Address: **22 Brassey Grove, Glasgow, G33 4UR**

Email: [gamscaemail@gmail.com](mailto:gamscaemail@gmail.com)

Charity Number: **SC052339**

## **GAMBIANS & FRIENDS IN SCOTLAND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (GAMSCA) FINANCIAL REPORT**

***For the Period 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024 (With Comparison to 2023)***

### **Financial Review Overview**

Throughout 2024, the Gambians & Friends in Scotland Community Association (GAMSCA) managed its finances with exceptional care and diligence. The charity's income was primarily sourced from donations, grants, subscriptions, and a variety of fundraising events. Expenditures were focused on supporting charitable activities, with ongoing efforts to closely monitor and contain administrative costs. Detailed financial figures are available in Section A of the Statement of Receipts and Payments.

### **Receipts**

#### **Donations**

Donations in 2024 were largely generated from the Eid celebrations and other community events held throughout the year, including cultural gatherings. The total donations received amounted to £2,663, reflecting a substantial increase from the £2,202 collected in 2023. This growth equates to a 21% year-on-year rise in donation income.

#### **Emergency Contributions**

Emergency contributions were made through monthly payments of £5 by members. In 2024, these contributions totaled £3,335, which is a slight decrease of 5% compared to the £3,500 received in 2023.

#### **Grants**

GAMSCA secured £38,688 in grant funding from key donors in 2024, a significant increase from the £9,540 received in the previous year. This substantial growth was mainly attributed to the successful acquisition of a two-year arts project and the completion of other funded initiatives during the year.

#### **Fundraising Activities**

Fundraising activities in 2024 focused on significant cultural events such as Tanabirr, club nights, and the Independence celebration. These events generated £6,242, a marked improvement from the £2,703 raised in 2023, highlighting the effectiveness of our community-led fundraising efforts.

### **Total Funds Raised**

The total income raised by GAMSCA in 2024 reached £55,326, compared to £17,945 in 2023. This demonstrates robust year-on-year growth and enhanced financial sustainability for the charity.

### **Payments / Expenses**

GAMSCA's total expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024 was £36,956. This figure is up from £14,743 in 2023, reflecting the increased delivery of charitable projects and activities aligned with the charity's objectives.

### **Closing Balance**

At the end of the 2024 financial year, GAMSCA's cash balance stood at £39,974. The charity is in a strong financial position, maintaining sufficient reserves to support ongoing programs and future community initiatives.

### **Conclusion**

In summary, 2024 was a year of considerable financial growth and impact for GAMSCA. The trustees remain committed to maintaining robust financial governance, diversifying funding streams, and ensuring that all resources continue to deliver public benefit in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and OSCR guidance.



**Report to the trustees/members of  
Registered charity number**  
**On the accounts of the charity for the  
period**  
**Set out on pages**

<b>Independent examiner's report on the accounts</b>						
Gambians and Friends in Scotland Community Association						
SC 052339						
Period start date			Period end date			
Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
01	01	2024	to	31	12	2024
2 to 6			(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)			

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. 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 seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention [other than that disclosed on the attached page\*]

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

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

**Signed\*\*:**

[Redacted signature]

**Date:**

11/10/2025

**Name:**

[Redacted name]

**Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):**

ACCA [Redacted]

**Address:**

[Redacted address]

\*Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply. If the words do apply, set out those matters which have come to your attention on the following page.

\*\*OSCR will accept digital or typed signatures

## Disclosure section

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

**Give here brief details of any items  
that the examiner wishes to disclose**

