

# Wolverhampton City of Sanctuary

## Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019

Registered Charity Number 1176101

**Registered Office Address** 16 Temple Street  
Wolverhampton  
WV2 4AN

### Names of trustees who manage the charity

John Catley	Chair	Served for entire period
Alan Marriott	Vice Chair	Served for entire period
Kate Penman	Secretary	Served for entire period
Erik Pearse	Treasurer	Served for entire period
Khady Noufe	Trustee	Served for entire period
George Reiss	Trustee	Served for entire period
Jojozana Mengue Owona	Trustee	Served from 27th March 2019

The Board of Trustees are responsible for appointing additional trustees

### Type of Governing Document

Constitution dated 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017

The Charity is constituted as a CIO

### Summary of the objects of the charity

- The advancement of the education of the public in general about the issues relating to refugees and those seeking asylum.
- The advancement of the education and training of those seeking asylum and those granted leave to remain or refugee status and their dependants in need thereof so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community.
- The promotion of equality and diversity for the public benefit by promoting activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds.
- The promotion of social inclusion for the public benefit among people who are refugees and asylum seekers who are socially excluded on the grounds of their social and economic position, by providing and/or co-ordinating services and facilities to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community.
- The prevention and relief of poverty amongst asylum seekers and refugees.

- f. The provision of accommodation for asylum seekers and refugees who are homeless or threatened with homelessness.

### **Summary of main activities and performance for the public benefit**

Weekly English and Maths lessons. These have been running throughout the year with up to eighteen asylum seekers and refugees attending. We have a regular fully qualified teacher and five assistants.

A weekly drop in is held giving asylum seekers and refugees an opportunity to promote social inclusion. At the Drop-in people can socialise, have refreshments and sometimes receive free donations of clothing, sanitary products and household items. It provides an opportunity to signpost people to help and advice. A Birmingham solicitor sends a member of staff to the drop in once a month to help asylum seekers with their cases. Twice a month we provide an opportunity for those attending to cook a meal, based on their own country's cuisine to be consumed by those present.

The number attending is growing and we have had as many as 75 attending each week. For this reason we will be moving from our current premises at the Church at Broad Street to the more capacious SS Mary and John Church Hall.

We held two 'Meet and Mingle' social events that give an opportunity for local people to meet asylum seekers and refugees. These are bring and share events with entertainment provided.

A variety of trips to the countryside were organised during the year. These are supported by St, Nicholas Church Codsall, Broseley Methodist Church and various Quaker Groups.

A coach party of 40 asylum seeking families travelled to Bishops Castle, Shropshire. Our host laid on a full day of activities and food.

19 went on a day trip to Clissett Wood, Herefordshire. There were a number of woodcraft skills to practice.

10 went on a canal boat trip at Wildside, Wolverhampton.

We also joined with Wolverhampton Quakers in running three holidays in Porthmadog, North Wales 71 people attended.

In total we enabled 140 asylum seekers to leave their troubles behind for a short time.

One of our funds (Kenny's Fund) named after a deceased volunteer is used to give cash to destitute asylum seekers and others who are desperate. A subcommittee, under the chairmanship of a trustee, consider requests for support, and has been developing criteria and expertise in this field. We supported 31 separate individuals during the year totalling £9,099

During the year a further four schools were awarded School of Sanctuary status. There are now a total of eight such schools in Wolverhampton.

To assist in providing the above services we have thirty volunteers who attend regularly.

It is from these volunteers that additional trustees are sought.

### **Finances**

During the year the distinguished pianist Margaret Fingerhut gave a recital in Wolverhampton with all proceeds (£1,780) being donated to our charity.

The annual accounts show a 6% decrease in our overall funds (£16,362 at the year end) but a 26% increase in the unrestricted funds element (£13,620 at the year end). However, our rent of £2,817, funded entirely through a grant, will need to be partly funded from our unrestricted fund next year unless another grant is secured for this.

### **Policy on Reserves**

Although it is not currently an issue, given our financial position. the trustees' Policy is to maintain unrestricted reserves amounting to between 6 and 12 months' total expenditure in the previous year.



**John Catley**  
Chairman

June 18<sup>th</sup> 2020



**Erik Pearce**  
Treasurer

June 18<sup>th</sup> 2020

c/o Interfaith Wolverhampton, 16 Temple Street, Wolverhampton WV2 2AN

## Accounts – 2019

<b><u>Income</u></b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b><u>2018</u></b>
Cookery club	100		0
Kenny's Fund <sup>1</sup>	7,233		6,339
Other donations <sup>1</sup>	4,544		5,718
Fund-raising/grants	1,780		7,146
Refunds	<u>0</u>		<u>631</u>
<b>Total<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>13,657</b>		<b>19,834</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>			
Kenny's fund donations	7,754		7,163
Other donations	1,345		2,337
Training costs	575		648
Cost of events	1,424		1,296
Volunteer costs	378		114
Donations to partner charities	0		2,520
Rent	2,817		2,425
Sundries	<u>466</u>		<u>84</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,759</b>		<b>16,587</b>
Result for the year	(1,102))		3,247
Funds brought forward	17,464		14,217
Balance carried forward	16,362		17,464


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## Notes

1. Donations are primarily made by regular payments from a small number of individuals and ecclesial bodies.
2. The total does not include a grant of £1,600 from My Friendly Cities for a refugee project (Let's Learn our Rights) which is not an established charity. The grant was received and passed on during the year.

  
John Catley  
Chair

June 18<sup>th</sup> 2020

  
Erik Pearse  
Treasurer

June 18<sup>th</sup> 2020