



Registered Charity no: 1158704

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 March 2020

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Annual report & accounts formally accepted at the
AGM of HOST Nottingham on Thursday 12 November 2020

Host Nottingham: A Brief History

Destitute asylum seekers are asylum seekers who have had their initial claims refused and because they are not entitled to work or receive any public funds or benefits of any kind, find themselves either sleeping rough on the streets or 'sofa surfing'. In effect, they are in limbo while they either submit a fresh asylum claim or wait for the authorities to return them back to their country of origin. In many cases this is not possible, as the country is deemed unsafe for them to be returned to. Even if the country is deemed 'safe' then removals can take many months, if not years. Many in these situations can experience mental health issues. Many also live in fear of being returned to their home countries to face persecution, imprisonment or even death. Many lead, and have led since their arrival, isolated lives and are in desperate need of help and support.

Host Nottingham was established in 2011 in response to the growing number of destitute asylum seekers who needed to have some short-term accommodation in the city and the need to provide a support network for informal hosts. In the last nine years we have hosted over 188 guests and have had the privilege of working with more than 60 hosts.

We achieve our aims by recruiting and supporting volunteer 'hosts' who have a spare room where destitute asylum seekers and others, or 'guests' as they are called, can stay for a period of time while they work with our partner agencies to develop a future plan of action. The scheme is flexible and works around the needs of the 'host' families who offer a room for a week, a few months or in some cases considerably longer.

Many referrals come from the Anti-Destitution Coordinator at Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Refugee Forum (NNRF) with every potential guest being assessed to ensure that both they and their hosts are suitable (and compatible) regarding safety and physical and mental health issues. We also have guests, usually newly recognised refugees, referred from advisors at NNRF as well as referrals from other agencies including the British Red Cross.

These are all short-term placements and most of the guests are supported by staff and volunteers at the NNRF to ensure that their legal and other needs are being met. It is always hoped that there will be a place to which the guests can be referred, be that Section 4 or Section 95 or a place in one of the Nottingham Arimathea Trust properties.

Most guests are referred to and encouraged to attend the NNRF Anti-Destitution food and cash groups, which provide a food parcel and hot meal every Saturday, and £10 in cash for clients every four weeks. However, since the lockdown their food is parceled up and delivered and they have been provided with £40 in cash every four weeks. Guests who are newly recognised refugees are not entitled to access the Anti-Destitution project, and if they have not received their Universal Credit, are referred to local Food Banks. All guests are provided with a bus pass for around 10 days each month and some who are able to ride, can obtain bicycles.

We also manage a drop-in Clothes Bank, and are currently setting up 'Side by Side', a befriending/navigating scheme, and 'First Place', a support service to help newly recognised refugees access private rented accommodation.

Host Nottingham is actively involved in awareness raising and campaigning for a just asylum system, working closely with all our partners to tackle homelessness among asylum seekers and refugees in Nottingham.

Annual report – achievements & performance

Chair's Report

Host was set up in 2011 but the past year has been one of the strangest and challenging that we have ever experienced. Everyone's lives have been affected and changed - for some, irreparably - but as we at Host have faced the new challenges we have looked to see how we can respond and adapt the way we have been working. We are aware that this Annual Report is officially for the period up to March 2020, but as life in general and our work in particular has changed so fundamentally since then, we are going to share some of our developments over the last few months.

Covid-19 and the Lockdown

Until the start of the lockdown in mid-March we had been very busy and hosting more people than ever. As well as the need to host destitute asylum seekers, there was an increase in the need to provide short-term accommodation for those who had received a positive immigration decision and were starting their journey towards a more secure and hopeful future. The YMCA, which is usually the first place where new refugees go for housing as they wait for something more permanent, had more than a three-month waiting list. At the time of the lockdown we were hosting 7 people and had another 8 on the waiting list. However, as we faced this unknown pandemic, we were aware that some of our hosts had underlying health conditions and others were in a vulnerable age group, so we very reluctantly took the decision to stop hosting (apart from two hosts who felt able to continue) for what we hoped would only be a few months, but of course turned out to be for much longer.

As we were not able to continue hosting, many of our guests had to return to unsafe and precarious situations of sofa surfing or sleeping on floors wherever they could. We were very concerned about this, so some of our trustees began to make strenuous efforts to try and find alternative accommodation for them, even approaching the University for the use of a student hall of residence. Few of the things that we tried were successful but we were able to have some good conversations with the local Council and other voluntary bodies, and managed to get the plight of destitute asylum seekers much higher up the agenda given all the other emergency accommodation that was being provided for other homeless people. Unfortunately, the Government would not provide support for those with no recourse to public funds (NRPF), so once again destitute asylum seekers were in a very precarious position.

Private Rented Housing – 'First Place'

After some discussion we realised that one way in which we could work during the time of lockdown was to look for new ways in which Host could support newly recognised refugees. We began to look for sympathetic landlords who might rent to refugees receiving Housing Benefit. We spent time explaining that the reason why they were having to access benefits was not because they did not want to work, but because they were not *permitted* to work during the months and years they were waiting for their asylum applications to be processed. It took a long time and a lot of phoning round and visiting different properties, but we are finally beginning to see some positive results and our new project, 'First Place', will be starting shortly. More information can be found in Rebecca's report (page 6).

Volunteer Recruitment & Social Media Coordinator – ‘Side by Side’

Just before lockdown we appointed Rose Henshaw to work for us one day a week for six months initially as Assistant Project Coordinator. Rose was previously working for Refugee Roots and comes to us with a lot of relevant experience. She has been developing our ‘Side by Side’ befriending/navigating scheme that aims to recruit and train volunteers to assist both asylum seekers and refugees e.g. accompanying them to appointments, and helping them to access local services. Rose has also done a huge amount of work on our website and social media which has greatly enhanced our profile with the wider public. For more information see Rose’s report (page 8).

Clothes Bank

With the Refugee Forum closed and only offering remote, contactless services, how we operated the Clothes Bank also needed to change. With clients not able to come into the Forum to choose their own clothes we started to take referrals, packed the clothes that had been requested and delivered them directly to individual clients. We are enormously grateful to Rita and Anna in particular for the imaginative way in which they have rearranged, sorted and labeled most of the garments. This has helped finding clothes so much easier. As well as referrals from the Forum’s Anti Destitution Project and advisers, we have also been providing clothes for asylum seekers living temporarily in the Initial Accommodation hotels in Nottingham. Since mid-August we have packed almost 300 bags of clothes. Rita gives further details in her report (page 9).

Respond and Adapt Funding

We were very fortunate to be offered the opportunity to apply for special funding from the Covid-19 Respond and Adapt Fund. Our bid was successful and this meant that we were able to ask Rose to continue working with us once her initial six month contract came to an end in September. She is currently working as our ‘Volunteer Recruitment and Social Media Coordinator’ for two days a week for the coming year. We have also managed to secure other funding which enables us to have some security for the year ahead.

Open Evening

As our contribution to Nottingham’s electronic Refugee Week, we had our first zoom Open Evening in June, which was a real success. We had both hosts and guests sharing their experiences and, after a formal presentation, some very good discussions ensued. We are delighted to have a number of new hosts who have signed up as a result, and we are planning another zoom event in November.

NACCOM

We owe a great debt of gratitude to NACCOM (The No Accommodation Network) for their support and leadership in response to the pandemic. They initially had weekly zoom meetings (now fortnightly) for all their member organisations around the country to help us navigate the new reality in supporting asylum seekers and refugees. They have been issuing national statements, writing letters to government on behalf of all their members, working closely with partners such as the Red Cross, Asylum Matters and others providing advocacy, and arranging meetings focusing on hosting, housing, night shelters and other areas of our work. Their specific guidance and support has been invaluable.

Hotels and wider Homeless Issues

Over recent months, a group of organisations around the City have become involved in providing support for a large group of asylum seekers who are at present in Initial

Accommodation in hotels in Nottingham. We discovered the very precarious situations in which many of them are placed and the serious lack of support and information being given to them. We have had zoom meetings every two weeks with a number of residents and organisations, and have been able to provide advocacy and practical support in the form of warm winter clothing.

Nottingham Homelessness Voluntary Sector Forum (NHVSF)

We continue to value the work of this Forum which has been of particular importance over the last year in providing information about the government's 'everyone in' policy. Short-term hotel accommodation was provided for people who were homeless but as mentioned earlier this did not include asylum seekers with 'no recourse to public funds'. So we continue to try and find other ways of supporting them as we face a cold winter.

Trustees and Fundraising

We are very aware that like so many charities we have not been able to hold any fundraising events since March and not had any opportunities to attend events where we can share and speak about our work. However, we are deeply grateful for the commitment and support of all our trustees who have enabled us to continue our work and branch out into new areas. We are very grateful to Maralyn Bird who has been a trustee for some time, but who will be standing down at our upcoming AGM owing to other pressures. We are deeply grateful to her and Clive for the support that they have given to Host over the years.

The Future

As I reflect on the last year and in particular the last seven or eight months, I am deeply saddened at the way in which the Hostile Environment, which came in when Theresa May was Home Secretary, has been ramped up in a most serious and deeply troubling way. The situation facing those who are coming to the UK with a right to seek asylum, safety and sanctuary is now more hostile than ever. There are more barriers put in their way. There are fewer solicitors with even heavier case loads, who are now accused of being 'activists' and 'supporters of traffickers' as they undertake their professional legal work of protecting their clients' human rights and taking them through the asylum process, trying to address the horrendous situations many have experienced in their escape from wars, torture, rape and many other kinds of extreme suffering.

The most recent change to the Immigration Rules make rough sleeping grounds for refusing or cancelling someone's right to remain in the UK. With the harsh situation facing those who are seeking legal asylum and the refusal of the government to make provision in this pandemic for those with no recourse to public funds, this final threat is terrifying and puts even more pressure on organisations like Host to try and provide accommodation if at all possible.

I am deeply grateful to Rebecca and Rose for all their invaluable and innovative work and to all of our volunteers who provide welcome, warmth, care and support in so many ways. We know that the future is going to be even more challenging, but I feel sure that we will, despite all the restrictions, be able to continue to offer invaluable support to those clients who come to us.

Jane Henson

Project Coordinator's Report

So much has changed since the 31 March 2020 that it feels like a lifetime has passed since the last financial year.

Looking back I can see that we hosted 38 guests for over 1400 nights during that period, the highest number in our history. We have also welcomed 9 new host households into our pool of volunteers who are willing to open their homes to asylum seekers and refugees.

Much like last year, the majority of our placements have been for newly recognised refugees (NRR) who have not had enough time to secure accommodation in the 28 days between their positive decision and the end of their asylum support (66%).

We have hosted the same percentage of destitute asylum seekers (DAS) as we did last year, a relatively low (16%), even though there are still many people in urgent need of accommodation. We continued to limit most placements during this period to a maximum of three months, and to accommodate only those destitute asylum seekers who were actively engaged with the asylum process. This system was designed to increase the chances of a positive move on, prevent indefinite placements and avoid host burn out. However, with legal aid solicitors few and far between and massively over subscribed, there are fewer opportunities for people to seek the advice they need to regularise their status. The result is the relatively low percentage of placements being offered to destitute asylum seekers with no recourse to public funds (NRPF) for another year. We have been discussing alternative options and have taken some steps, described below, to try and change the ratio of NRRs and DAS accommodated by hosts.

We have also accommodated 7 people who do not fit neatly into either category, including three people fleeing domestic violence. Of those, two did not yet have any secure status and one had leave to remain as a refugee. Of those remaining, one person had been granted leave to remain but had not been recognised as a refugee, two had not yet claimed asylum.

The high number of referrals for newly recognised refugees (NRR) who do have access to public funds and the ability to work, points to a serious failing in the asylum system. It demonstrates that the 28 days given to 'move on' from asylum support into mainstream benefits and accommodation is insufficient. The long waiting lists, not only for council housing and Universal Credit, but also for hostel accommodation, are not a feature that is unique to Nottingham, it is a nationwide issue that urgently needs to be addressed.

Then Covid-19 swept the globe, the UK locked down and everything changed. We had 7 guests being hosted at this time, 5 of whom were newly recognised refugees. Some of our hosts were vulnerable and required to shield. No one was moving out of YMCA accommodation, so this was no longer a viable 'move on' option. Our Chair, Jane, began working with the council and others to find appropriate accommodation for our guests to 'move on' to. People who may have been able to sofa surf with friends previously were no longer able to do so. Council housing is rarely available for young, single people at the best of times, now it was even less likely to be a possibility. The only option left was privately rented accommodation. Unfortunately, most landlords and letting agents are unwilling to accommodate people who are in receipt of housing benefits. Those who are

willing to do so require a deposit and a guarantor, both virtually impossible to obtain for our guests.

With that immediate problem to solve, Jane Henson, Paul Scotting, Hilary Hare-Duke and Maureen Harms set out to contact landlords and convince them that our guests would make good and reliable tenants. They worked with the City Council's Nottingham Private Rented Assistance Scheme (NPRAS) who are able to provide the first month's rent in advance for appropriate properties. They also advised that Host and NNRF would be able to provide some support for landlords and tenants.

Eventually some of our guests were accommodated by the City Council and others were able to remain in hosting. We closed to new referrals, as the Home Office paused evictions during lockdown and the government rolled out 'everyone in', accommodating those people who were found to be sleeping rough. We did, however, step in to host a guest who was severely immunocompromised and living in highly inappropriate shared accommodation where he could not shield. He was on the priority list for self-contained Home Office accommodation, but it still took over 2 months and the intervention of a community care solicitor before this was provided.

Post lockdown, with evictions starting up again and the possibility that many student landlords would be struggling to fill their houses in the coming academic year, we decided that it may be fruitful to continue exploring possibilities with the private rental sector. We have formally set up a new project called 'First Place' to continue this line of enquiry. We hope that NRRs will be signposted into decent, secure accommodation and we will be able to free up host bed spaces for destitute asylum seekers. With enough hosts, we may be able to take longer placements by moving guests between different host households.

In spite of the fear and uncertainty that we are all facing this year, we have also recruited 6 further host households since April. Some of these joined us after a very successful zoom Open Evening, and I hope that we manage to hold many more such online events in the coming months.

Host and our wonderful volunteers are shifting and adapting to keep up with the ever changing landscape. Many thanks to all of our hosts and volunteers who have remained so dedicated and resilient in the face of these troubling times. It remains challenging, but I am hopeful that we will continue to rise to this challenge and continue to do good work.

Rebecca Kogan

Volunteer Recruitment & Social Media Coordinator's Report

I joined Host just before the Covid-19 lockdown in March this year and have had to adapt my role in light of the restrictions. I have been working from home supporting volunteers, laying the groundwork for the new befriending/navigating scheme 'Side by Side', developing our social media presence, and helping with other Host projects.

1. Volunteer Recruitment

'Side by Side'

My initial task at Host was to develop the befriending/navigating scheme 'Side by Side' – a service that partners volunteers with asylum seekers and refugees to help them attend appointments and connect with their local community. Unfortunately, the envisioned face-to-face nature of the scheme was halted by the lockdown. Pre-Covid, asylum seekers and refugees would have multiple face-to-face appointments, such as with the Job Centre, housing providers and their solicitors. However during lockdown these were all being carried out over the telephone or paused altogether. So during that time my work focused on setting up the scheme and recruiting volunteers. To date we have:

- Eight volunteers have been recruited and are ready to respond;
- Volunteer policies have been written including a Side by Side Handbook, and our Safeguarding Policy updated;
- I have delivered our first Host Training Induction on zoom, and will soon deliver UK Asylum System training to interested volunteers;
- Plans are underway to deliver remote support and/or socially distanced support outside, such as helping guests locate local parks/services.

Despite new lockdowns being imminent we have just started to advertise the scheme through NNRF and other refugee charities in the city. Given that this kind of support is much needed we anticipate receiving significant numbers of referrals over the coming months.

Clothes Bank

A more effective social media presence has not only provided opportunities to request specific items of clothing, but also allowed us to celebrate and raise awareness of the brilliant work of the Clothes Bank. We have also recruited five new volunteers.

2. Social Media

It has been wonderful to use this time of remote working to develop our social media presence. Highlights have included:

- **Setting up online website donations through "Enthuse"** – this will allow visitors to the website to donate to the general work of Host or specific appeals such as "Sponsor a Bus Pass" or any specific Christmas appeals;
- **Developing the Website** to include a News page, Advocacy work, Volunteer roles and services as well as stories from Hosts and Guests;
- **Developed a social media strategy** which has seen increasing engagement to our Page and Website on Facebook and Twitter;
- **Open Evenings** received more attendance through individuals engaging with social media invites.

Rose Henshaw

Clothes Bank News

This time last year seems an age away – so much has happened!

The Clothes Bank has been running successfully since January 2016. This year until March 2020 it was open six days a week for two hours a day and over 1,895 individuals and families have benefited from its services. By the 2nd week of March, when it had to stop functioning because of lockdown due to Covid-19, we had fourteen volunteers working for the clothes bank and between four and fourteen clients coming in daily.

For four months we were closed. Everything was abandoned – all the winter wear left out!

As lockdown eased in June and July, the Anti-Destitution Group continued to provide weekly food parcels and some of their clients were desperate for clothing so these were included with their food parcels. Jane soon realised that our services were in demand, and we started to organise a new way in which the Clothes Bank could resume functioning. As the Refugee Forum was closed to clients, we realised that clothes parcels were the answer.

From August three volunteers started clearing and sorting, and a new way of working was organised. Clothes were sorted, all were labeled and hung up in appropriate sizes, and a new source of shoes from Shoe Aid was found. Sharewear continued to be a very important partner in both taking clothes from us which were not suitable for our clients, and helping to provide us with the items that were being requested. Six volunteers then started once a week making up parcels. We have been able to put in some nice toiletries for both men and women, as well as a face mask, and sometimes even treats for children! We are now permitted to have a two-hour slot on Monday and Thursday mornings to pack parcels. We now have more volunteers, however trying to keep physically distanced in such a small space is very challenging indeed! To date, since late August, we have packed in excess of 300 parcels for asylum seekers and refugees around the city who are desperately in need of warm clothing.

We have three new volunteers, but are always looking for more, even in these restricted circumstances. Host has provided Covid-19 guidelines for volunteers so that we work in a safe environment and in accordance with government guidelines and we hope to continue providing parcels for as long as is necessary.

We would like to thank all of our volunteers who have been coming to pack bags and keep this service going. We would also like to thank Sharewear who continues to provide us with clothing, and Shoe Aid who has been providing us with a constant supply of children's, women's and men's footwear. Thank you.

Rita Cannon
Clothes Bank Coordinator

Reflections from Hosts, Guests & Partners

Reflections from Hosts

“Our motivation for hosting was solidarity and not wanting to be part of the hostile environment. We’ve been hosting someone through the pandemic and actually it was fine. It was almost like Christmas without our mums! It was weird, but nice as we did have that time to sit down and practice English. Our last guest wanted to buy foods that he knew we’d like and we came home to a fruit mountain! - it was quite funny!”

Steve and Andrea Harrison

“My guest’s personal stories are a very different world to the one I’ve grown up in, and I have nothing but respect for that. We spent Christmas together and it was really lovely. He couldn’t speak almost any English, but we played board games and it was a great leveller and a great means of sharing.”

Bob Diamond

Reflections from Guests

“Since I moved to their house it was like a family, I didn’t have any problem. I had feeling like it was my real house. I had keys and any time I wanted I could go out and come back when I wanted. It wasn’t like I was guest, it was like my own family.”

Davoud

“We only had 30 days after we got refugee status to leave our house. Host offered me a place, but it was so far way. I had really good time with my host. We used to cook together and I was lucky he loved to eat Middle Eastern food and cook it all the time. We had good experiences together. He taught me how to play a game. We used to play it every Saturday night. It was a really good experience and we had a lot of fun together”.

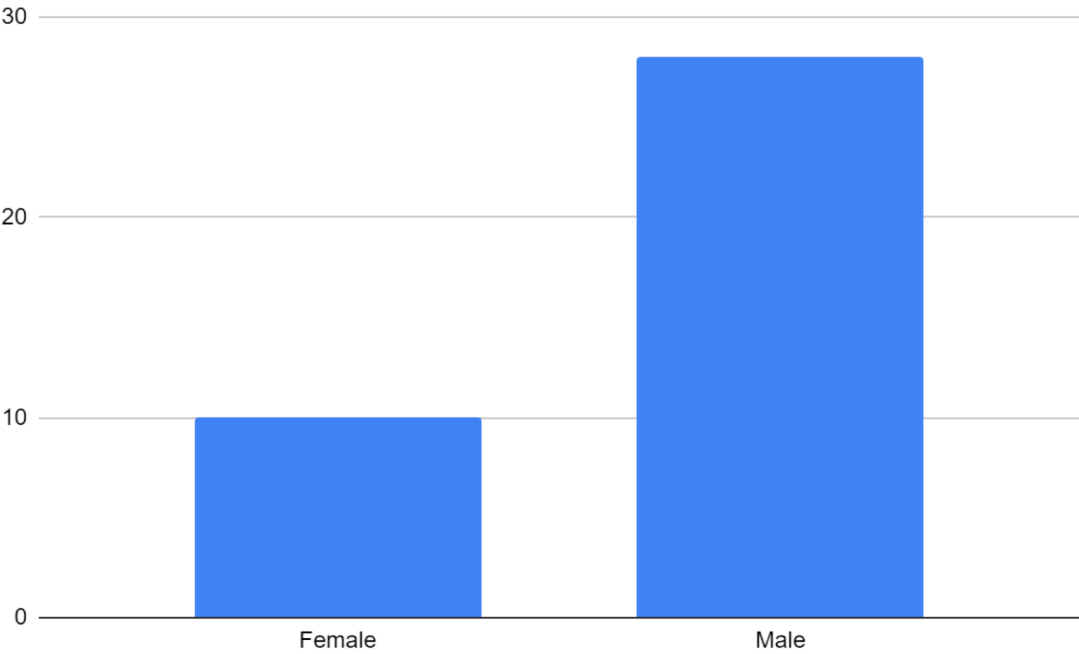
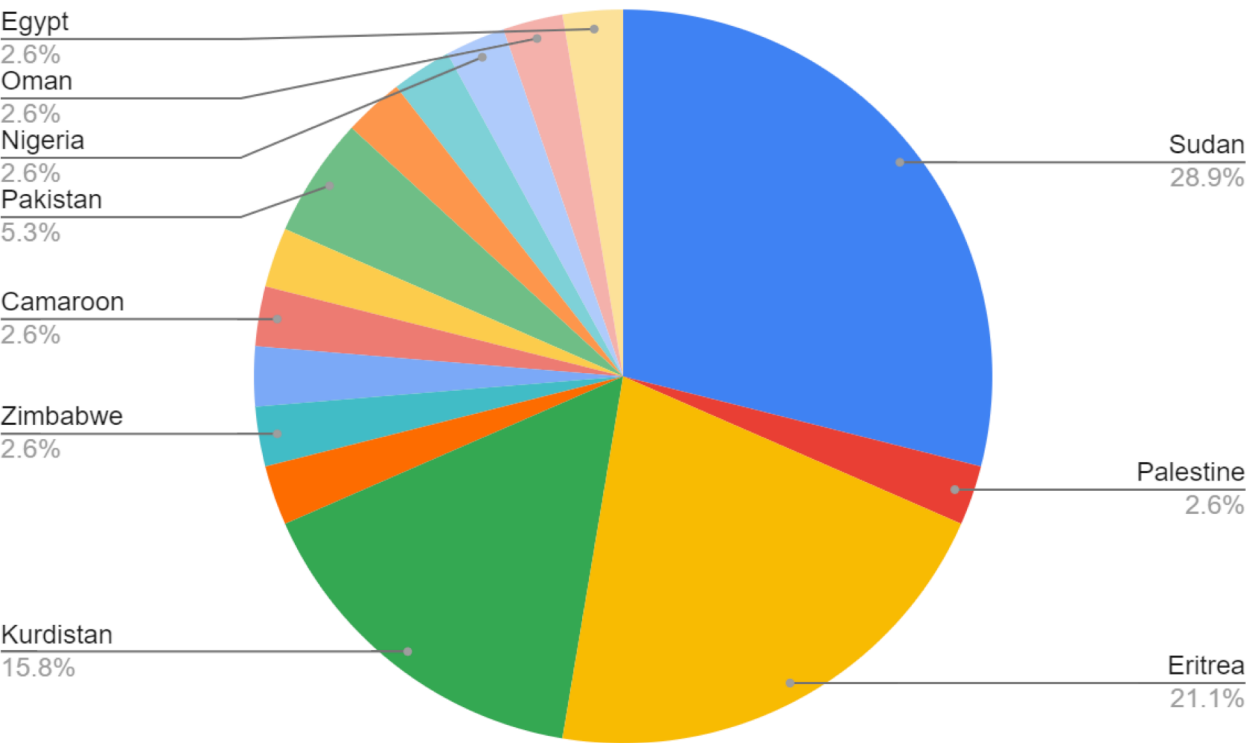
Ahmed

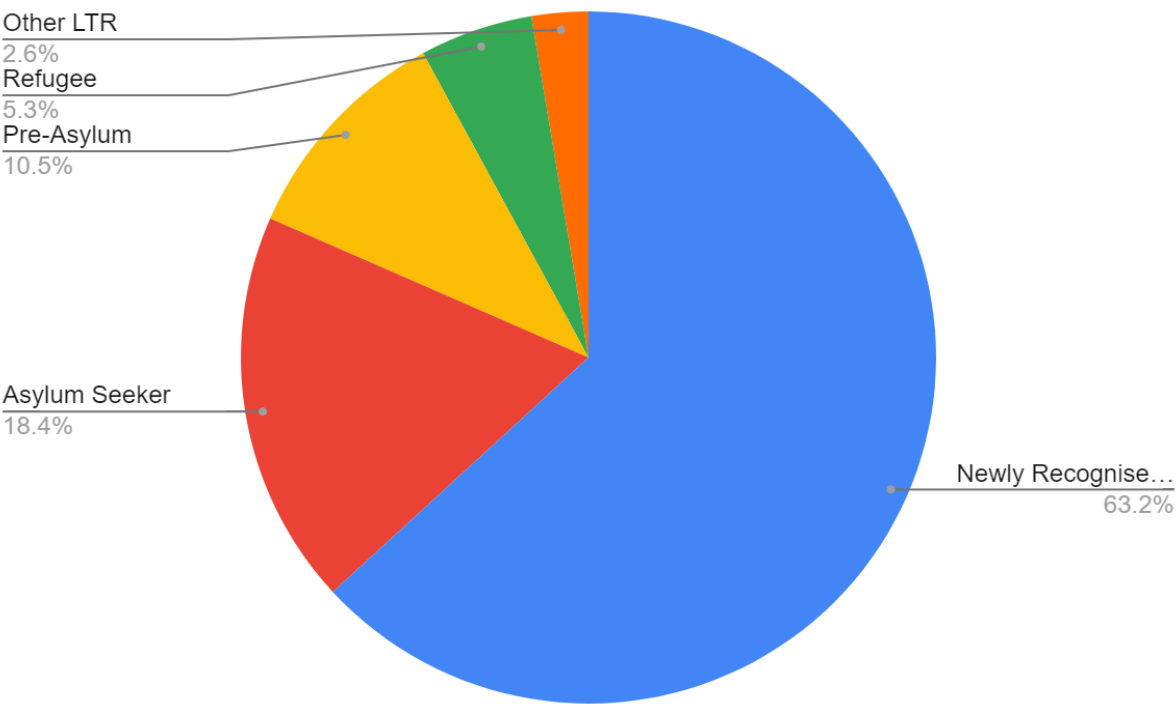
Reflections from a Partner

“Thank you for the help and support that Host has given during lockdown, particularly to the two guests we referred to you. We have been amazed and touched by the lengths that Host has gone to, whether this be scouring Chinese supermarkets or writing letters at short notice! Your Hosts have been amazing and Host has had such a positive impact on these two guests – we don’t know what we would have done without you!”

Alex – Red Cross

HOST Nottingham Statistics





Treasurer's Report for the year ending 31 March 2020

We started the year with £9,279 in the bank.

A total of £5,250 of grants were received, comprising £4,250 from Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Refugee Forum's Community of Identity funding, and £1,000 from The Archer Trust.

Our fundraising efforts raised a further £7,963, comprising £2,695 from individual donations; £4,597 from our Sponsored Swim, and £671 from a Moroccan themed food event.

Our total income for the year was £13,213.

A special thank-you goes to all those individuals and organisations that have helped us raise another significant amount of money this year.

Our expenditure for the year was £15,533, with the main items of expenditure being the Project Coordinator's wages, insurance and travel expenses for our Guests. In this financial year we paid insurance cover for both this year (19/20) and the next (20/21). Given that we operate out of an office space provided by NNRF, our office expenditure and overheads are incredibly low and for that we are very grateful. The wage bill was slightly higher than last year as we appointed a new part-time worker in March on a 6-month contract to support our Project Coordinator.

At the end of the financial year our closing balance was £6,941, with a further £54 in petty cash.

Despite the concerns of the pandemic that is sweeping the country, the organisation is in a relatively healthy financial position as we move into the next financial year.

Stuart Brown

Trustees report for the year ending 31 March 2020

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates
Jane Henson	Chair	Reappointed Nov 19
Stuart Brown	Treasurer	
Lee Harrison	Secretary	
Roger Van Schaick	Trustee	Reappointed Nov 19
Jennifer Fleming	Trustee	
Maralyn Bird	Trustee	Resigned Aug 20
Gemma Pillay	Trustee	
Maureen Harms	Trustee	Appointed Nov 19

Charity number

The charity was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales, number 1158704, on the 29 September 2014.

Registered and principal address

The Sycamore Centre
33A Hungerhill Road
Nottingham
NG3 4NB

Bankers

The Cooperative Bank
P O Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Independent examiner

Estelle Fisher
35 Mere Road
Erdington
Birmingham
B23 7LH

Structure, governance and management

The charity is governed by a constitution adopted on the 29 September 2014

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are appointed by the members at the AGM

Trustees report (continued) for the year ending 31 March 2020

Objectives and activities

The charity's objectives

1. The relief of need for refugees and asylum seekers living in the city of Nottingham, county of Nottinghamshire and surrounding areas.
2. The advancement of the education of the public in general about the issues relating to refugees and those seeking asylum through campaigning and other appropriate means.

The charity's main activities

- a) the provision of a referral into accommodation services for destitute asylum seekers,
- b) assistance in accessing legal advice/support,
- c) the provision of volunteer mentor and befrienders,
- d) developing and providing meaningful activities to improve the lives of clients
- e) such other means as the trustees identify

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the prevention and relief of need.

Achievements and performance

Please see annual report pages 2 - 12

Financial review

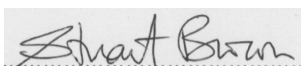
The net payments for the year were £15,533, including net receipts of £13,213. There were no restricted funds.

Reserves policy

Four years ago we adopted a 'reserves policy' which sought to ensure sufficient reserves are maintained to cover the winding up costs should it be desirable or necessary to cease activity. These will be sufficient to cover staff redundancies, rent and utility costs and any professional fees likely to be incurred. The reserves target has been met for this financial year.

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees:

Signed:



Date: 12 November 2020

Name: Stuart Brown

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of:**HOST Nottingham Registered Charity number 1158704****The Sycamore Centre, 33A Hungerhill Road, St Anns, Nottingham NG3 4BN**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of HOST Nottingham for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

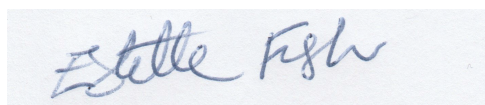
Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible but not required, to be subject to an independent examination, it is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that **no** material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: Estelle Fisher

Name: Estelle Fisher, Postgraduate Diploma in Audit Management and Consultancy, Institute of Internal Auditors, Advanced Diploma.

Address: 35, Mere Road, Erdington, Birmingham B23 7LH

HOST Nottingham
Receipts and Payments Accounts for the year ending
March 31 2020

	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
Receipts		
Donations	7,963	4,115
Ind. donations	2,695	
Fundraising events	5,268	
Grants	5,250	17,000
NNRF COI	4,250	
Archer Trust	1,000	
Total receipts	13,213	21,115
Payments		
Wages	9,750	8,978
Clothes Bank	93	352
Insurance 19/20 & 20/21	3,125	1,451
Payroll costs & Independent Examiner	392	292
Travel (Staff)	126	166
Travel (Guests)	1,485	912
Publicity / Website	36	32
Office expenses	221	275
Volunteer expenses	-	72
Misc expenses & subs	305	225
Total payments	15,533	12,756
Surplus	(2,320)	8,359
 Statement of Assets and Liabilities	 2019/20	 2018/19
Cash in bank	6,941	9,279
Cash in hand	54	36
less Liabilities due in year	-	-
Total	6,995	9,315
 Represented by bank balance b/f	 9,279	 778
Cash in hand b/f	36	178
Surplus income over expenditure	(2,320)	8,359
	6,995	9,315

Notes to the HOST Nottingham accounts for the year ended 2019/20

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The trustees have taken advantage of section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Taxation

As a registered charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Fund accounting

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

2 Reserves

The trustees seek to maintain a minimum of £1000 in reserves in accordance with the current reserves policy. The reserves target has been met for 2019/20.