

Making this report public: We will make this report publicly available by publishing it on our website and circulating it to our membership, funders and partner organisations.



The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2016.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered charity name African Health Policy Network

Charity registration number 1088641

Company registration number 03979511

Registered office Durning Hall, Earlham Gv, Forest Gate E7 9AB

Auditor Tay

Bankers Barclays Bank plc
Barclays Business Centre
1 North End
Croydon
Surrey

THE TRUSTEES

The trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows:

Mr Danmore Sithole - Chair

Mr Josh Babarinde – Secretary (retiring)

Ms Tendai Ndanga - Treasurer

Pr David Owusu

Ms Eureka Dube

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT AND OBJECTIVES

1. Constitution, policies and objectives

The charitable company is a company limited by guarantee and was set up by a Memorandum of Association on 18th April 2000 and as charity on 27th September 2001.

The principal objects of the charitable company are:

- 1 To advance the health and well being of African descent communities in the United Kingdom
- 2 To influence policy and practice relating to the health and well being of African descent communities in the United Kingdom
- 3 To influence policy and practice on wider determinants that impact on the health and well being of African descent communities in the United Kingdom
- 4 To influence, promote and provide training, support, research, campaigns, programmes and information for African descent Communities in the United Kingdom.

2. Method of appointment or election of board of Directors

The management of the charitable company is the responsibility of the board of directors who are appointed and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association. Currently the AHPN Board of Directors (Trustees) are appointed by open recruitment and by Co-option, based on their skills.

3. Policies adopted for the induction and training of board of trustees

Newly elected board members are encouraged to attend a series of training sessions led by the Chair of the Board and the Chief Executive officer. The courses attended equip the board members with skills to carry out their duties as trustees. The training enables them to understand:

- 1) Their obligation as trustees;
- 2) The importance of the main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity including the memorandum and Articles of association;
- 3) The control of resources and current financial position using the management accounts;
- 4) Their responsibility of the statutory accounts;
- 5) How to translate future plans and objectives into budgets and plans;
- 6) Use of budgetary control.

During induction, they meet key employees and other trustees. As part of the induction training, they are encouraged to attend appropriate external events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

4. Organisational structure and decision making

AHPN has a Board of Directors (Trustees) who are appointed by open recruitment. The work of the Board is supported by sub-committees and task groups. The organisation has

operational staff headed by a Chief Executive and other members of staff. Volunteers support various projects within the organisation at both strategic and operational levels.

5. Risk Management

The Board of Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charitable company is exposed. In particular those related to the operations and finances of the organisation, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

6. Public Benefit

AHPN has referred to the guidance in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set and cover all of these matters in the following detailed pages.

ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE TO MARCH 2017

During the financial year ending March 2017 the AHPN continued to implement its strategy ensuring that policies which affect the health and wellbeing of African descent communities living in the UK are addressed in a meaningful way. The teams within the organisation have worked on different initiatives to strengthen and represent the health needs of African descent communities.

POLICY DIRECTION

The focus of AHPN in all its work is reducing health inequalities and improving health outcomes, across specific health conditions as well as the wider social, cultural, lifestyle and economic determinants of health. The priority health conditions for AHPN are: HIV and sexual health; diabetes; cancer (especially breast and prostate cancer) stroke; mental health; and TB. The wider determinants focused on include faith, immigration and poverty.

The policy work of AHPN is divided into core functions: policy; membership; research; Ffena service users/volunteers; and projects & campaigns. In the year 2016-17 significant achievements were made against each of these functions.

POLICY

We have progressed the foundations laid down by our established and published Policy Position document and continued to work on the six main health conditions set out therein. We have updated the document and are seeking funds to promulgate the new revised position paper.

AHPN was represented at the annual British HIV Association conference in Liverpool. We ran a conference stall which attracted considerable interest and allowed AHPN to showcase its policy and research work and discuss its campaigning initiatives. We have worked with BHIVA in the revision of the Standards of Care for People Living with HIV.

AHPN signed off its work with The Burdett Trust for Nursing with our policy research on Delivering Dignity & Empowering Leadership project. This work focussed on culturally competent approaches in respect of HIV.

AHPN continued with its Beyond HIV campaign. This fulfils one of our policy objectives of raising the profile of the health policy needs of African descent people and communities and also provides an avenue to focus on some of the intersectional issues that continue to impact disproportionately on African descent PLWHIV but which are often overlooked or sidelined.

AHPN has also contributed to the key policy document published by the King's Fund, 'The Future of HIV Services in England'. We were also present at the national launch.

AHPN has continued with its Strategic Direction as set out in previous years.

We have undergone a successful change management process during recent financial periods. This has seen AHPN adopt a clear definition of its activities: ...'**the active voice of all African descent people in the UK living with and affected by HIV, sexual health & long term conditions**'. AHPN has become a key provider of front line health interventions for African descent communities. This involves **Peer Support initiatives & programmes, Mentoring, Point Of Care testing/health campaigns/Awareness raising/Anti Stigma & Discrimination initiatives/Mental health & Wellbeing strategies.**

AHPN has this year proved it is an organisation that demonstrably:

- Shapes the agenda on behalf of African descent people in the UK living with and affected by HIV and long term conditions
- Develops funded interventions and initiatives designed to alleviate these on a point of care basis
- Provides thought leadership on HIV and long term conditions and has redefined itself as the 'go to' hub for relevant issues
- Grows its membership and keeps it by disseminating good quality information monthly
- Asserts authority as an independent voice, representative of African descent people in the UK living with and affected by HIV and long term health conditions
- Explores other associated issues around HIV and long term health within the context of health e.g. immigration, poverty, housing, racism etc

Ongoing strategic work involves the:

- a. Preparation of a communication strategy and messages, in which AHPN restates and clarifies its strategic focus, rationale, purpose, values and key priorities.

- b. Development of a robust fundraising strategy the gains from which will underpin the continuing process of change and the projects undertaken going forward
- c. Review of staffing structure, skills and capacity required and ensure appropriate HR systems etc are in place
- d. Recalibration of the organisational focus of AHPN, emphasising the critical process of change management that the organisation has been undergoing since the shift from DH funding and its role as an overarching grant managing body to an intervening, point of care, front line agency
- e. Development of AHPN as the 'Go To' information hub for African descent health issues. Identify and define key policy areas with some thoughts given to determining how best to disseminate them to a wider world and member organisations. This may be in the form of reports, consultation submissions, briefings, media stories and lobbying. It will also be necessary to develop a method to measure how successful AHPN is in imbedding these issues in those policy areas into the thinking and practice of policy making bodies (central Government, NHS), community organisations, forums etc; establish a policy/research think tank
- f. Redefinition and clarification of the membership; move towards a more informal process of incorporating members or affiliates
- g. Commence research activities and begin the process of creating and disseminating knowledge, in partnership with others; Convene a policy network/virtual think-tank
- h. Redevelop *Ffena* with extended membership and broader involvement /remit (youth/LGBTq)
- i. Step up the level of engagement with government (DH and beyond), politicians, health service bodies, international organisations and media.
- j. Review and update of Memorandum of Association and establish robust governance with the assistance of 'in-kind' contribution
- k. Raise the AHPN profile. Organise events, seminars and conferences both locally and nationally

MEMBERSHIP

We continue to send out our monthly newsletter to membership and members of Ffena service user network. This contains both AHPN and member news. Working with our members has continued to be an important objective of AHPN. This year we have continued working to attract new members as well as engaging former members. Our members have participated in our research and campaigns, including in particular in our faith work and our research into HIV and service provision to African and BME communities. AHPN continues to augment community contacts by working through other community groupings, barbershops, hairdressers and faith groups of Christian and Muslim denominations.

RESEARCH

AHPN has delivered on its research project on Cultural capability and provision of HIV services. The focus here has been on building a picture of what constitutes best practice around cultural competence and service provision. Information was researched and developed which fed into a good practice handbook for practitioners and also provides policy directives.

AHPN has also assisted MIND, the mental health charity, with the research component of its Side by Side peer support initiative, facilitating research interviews for St George's University research staff.

FFENA

Ffena, our service user Network, continues to grow and strengthen. Volunteers have been extremely active in relation to gathering grass roots information and perspectives on important current issues such as HIV medication and switching to generics, the worth of 'buddying-up' for medical appointments and peer support. These issues have been the subject of focus group discussions facilitated by AHPN.

The group led on the AHPN World Aids Day event in December 2016 held in Newham and attended by the Deputy Mayor of the Borough.

The 14 existing Ffena satellites continue to feed through to AHPN via the Community and engagement lead officer. In this respect Ffena has inputted to AHPN policy work cultural issues and HIV provision and particularly our intersectional work on HIV which is looking 'Beyond HIV' services and is more and more focusing on associated factors, including ageing, comorbidities and mental health.

Ffena members in London have continued with a Garden group, where African descent PLWHIV can attend and work therapeutically with the land, meet others and access peer support.

Ffena members have been at the fore in AHPNs African Yams programme offering peer support and mentoring to African descent communities living with long term conditions in Northampton and London.

PROJECTS

AHPNs established projects have continued successfully. African Yams mental health peer mentoring has been funded by Mind's Side by Side initiative and run sessions in Northampton; Faith Positive and Faith Positive Plus are both projects which take an anti stigma and anti discrimination message into Black led churches in respect of HIV (the first in the London Boroughs and the other more widely so) and have been well received. African Mentoring Initiative funded by ViiV (GSK) was successfully completed. It has given rise to further AHPN peer mentoring initiatives which have seen peer coordinators, mentors and mentees work together to deliver a valuable project providing support and information to African PLWHIV, again funded by our partnership with Viiv. Issues covered have been nutrition, mental health, immigration issues, benefits and understanding medication. We are

looking to augment this work with further initiatives which build the evidence base for peer support in this field. Our MacAids funded Ffena and empowerment work has gone from strength to strength.

Our work with in the East end of London in partnership with EECF has seen AHPN deliver mentoring and anti stigma projects.

And partnership with Gilead pharmaceuticals and subsequent core funding contributions have allowed us to develop a Positive Nutrition project serving African descent PLWHIV from across the 32 London Boroughs.

CAMPAIGNS

'Beyond HIV' is our ongoing campaign to take the discussion of HIV and ethnicity beyond the established frameworks and discuss issues of intersectionality. To this end our research and presentational work has involved discussions on poverty, immigration, mental health, social care, TB housing and benefits; as well as focussing on specific African communities (for they are not homogeneous) and specific groupings eg women, MSM and youth.

We have continued to website publish information on our policy stance on FGM. AHPN was again represented at an international conference in Belgium on the issue as well as more local meetings and policy forums. AHPN has also continued to be strategically involved in the campaigns of 1000 women with the Naz Project and Positive Conversations with Gilead Pharmaceuticals.

AHPN staff have been involved in delivering training and empowerment sessions for HIV and migrant organisations in Germany (in both Berlin and Cologne). And the AHPN Community Engagement unit has led on national presentations/sessions on migrant groups and shared decision making in HIV; African descent womens' experiences of ageing with HIV and group work on 'Undetectable =Untransmittable' in HIV.

Financial Report and Funding

AFRICAN HEALTH POLICY NETWORK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2017 £	Total Funds 2016 £
INCOME				
Incoming resources from generating funds:				
Voluntary income	60,659	37,813	98,472	70,014
Investment income	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	60,659	37,813	98,472	70,014
EXPENDITURE				
Charitable activities	(63,860)	(37,813)	(101,673)	(66,924)
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	(63,860)	(37,813)	(101,673)	(66,924)
NET INCOMING RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR/NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	(3,201)	-	(3,201)	3,090
Total funds brought forward	14,761	-	14,761	11,671
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	11,560	-	11,560	14,761

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.


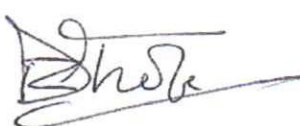
All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

AFRICAN HEALTH POLICY NETWORK

BALANCE SHEET

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

	Note	2017 £	2016 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets		1	1
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors		15,010	21,935
Cash at bank		3,987	2,017
		<u>18,997</u>	<u>23,952</u>
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year		<u>(7,438)</u>	<u>(9,192)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		11,559	14,760
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT ASSETS		<u>11,560</u>	<u>14,761</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>11,560</u>	<u>14,761</u>
FUNDS			
Restricted income funds		-	-
Unrestricted income funds		11,560	14,761
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>11,560</u>	<u>14,761</u>


Chair 

Charity Registration Number: 1088641
Company Number: 03979511