

Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants



Trustees' Annual Report
and Financial Statements
31st August 2017

ISLINGTON CENTRE FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

Financial Statements - 31 August 2017

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ISLINGTON CENTRE FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

General Information

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07076199

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1135205

TRUSTEES: Victor de Waal (Chair)
Teresa Dodgson
Gladys Jusu Sheriff
Beverley van der Sluis
James Fletcher
Edward Vargas Caceres
Dean Anderson
Jo Cobley

REGISTERED OFFICE: Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants
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PRIMARY BANKERS: The Co-operative Bank
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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER: Mr J P Foxwell FCCA FCIE
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ISLINGTON CENTRE FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees, who are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their report and the financial statements for the year ending 31 August 2017. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the governing document, the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and 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.

STATUS: The company was incorporated on 13 November 2009 and is limited by guarantee. The company is a registered charity (no: 1135205). The Memorandum and Articles of Association form the governing documents of the charitable company. The limit of the members' guarantee is £1. No provision for taxation has been made on the basis that the charitable company is exempt from Corporation Tax on its charitable activities.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY: The principal activity of the charitable company in the year under review was Education - Adult and other education

OBJECTIVES: The Objectives as described in the Memorandum and Articles of Association reads as follows:

1. To advance education and relieve financial hardship amongst those seeking asylum and those granted refugee status by the provision of advice, training and support.
2. To advance the education of the public in general about the issues relating to refugees and those seeking asylum.
3. To advance the Christian religion by living out our love for neighbour and bringing the stranger of any or no faith into our community.

All work of the charitable company has been dedicated to the furtherance of these objectives.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2016-17

Centre Report: September 2016 – August 2017

The year has brought many new experiences including new clients at the Centre, new volunteers and indeed new staff. There have been some real highs and also some lows for certain individuals receiving negative decisions in response to their asylum applications. This is the way of things but of course we have the power to change things for the better by providing opportunities both continued and new. In the case of the Centre this manifests as the various activities we have run throughout the year including the wonderful enrichment activities that range from Art and Writing to Pilates and Knitting to Dancing. New faces bring new ideas and so a gradual development and change akin to growing ensues.

With the difficult and distressing nature of many of our clients' day-to-day lives we have naturally settled on values that positively impact on them. Balance and Reliability; we work to balance dependency with engendering independence. We are working to teach but seeking to learn how best to deliver and adapt accordingly. Allowing free expression at the same time as providing counsel. Listening so hard to those who have so much to say during their studies who are striving to absorb your every word to take part in meaningful and colourful dialogue.

Last year we balanced our provision against our incoming resources to navigate through the survival stage of the previous year since the funding cut in 2014. It has been a bit like starting all over again in terms of building a new charity in some respects but this time drawing on the collective experience of all those involved to channel the provision in a way that attracts wider support and funding. Believe me it is not easy to fundraise for asylum seekers. It may seem like an obvious choice for a client group so marginalised but the sheer diversity within that group and lack of services to allow a common voice that keep it on the edges of the mainstream and in the hands of those who have some first hand experience or funders with their finger on the pulse.

Many of our asylum seekers receive no benefits whatsoever and are prohibited from working at all. This is a very difficult cycle to break but with incredible determination, hope and a vision for what could be, we are able to share something together that is beneficial to all at the Centre through careful building of relationships and support mechanisms.

ISLINGTON CENTRE FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

In the previous year we were in the midst of our survival strategy which was a bit like a white knuckle ride in some respects as we had to vary the level of delivery regularly to minimise disruption to direct contact with our clients and also to maintain quality as best as possible. Although challenging we were working in the knowledge that we were edging towards sustainability with a valuable addition to the team. In November we welcomed our new Head of Fundraising and Development, Katie Commons, who has extensive experience of fundraising for our particular client group. This marked our clear move into the sustainability element of our overall strategy. We had recently in the previous year secured our first multi year grants through the work of Jo Cobley who had been leading on fundraising; Katie was to take this concept forward and develop a wider income base including a wider profile in multi year grants in order to secure funding for upcoming years so each year does not have to start again from scratch. This may seem like a simple concept but is a welcome new direction considering the Centre's history of funding which up until 2014 was largely reliant on one stream of income. Please see Katie's report below for specific information on Fundraising and Development. From November 2016, we were fortunate to welcome to Jo onto the board of trustees.

With our strengthened fundraising core, we embarked on a comprehensive fundraising strategy to take us through to the sustainability stage of our strategy.

The many changes in days and roles across the Centre was negotiated beautifully by our committed Staff who continued to support the work of the Centre and the individual clients by broadening its work through expansion of tasks to accommodate the increasing requirements of a multiple grant funded project. Additionally, through more public events and general awareness of the Centre through individual donors, we began to see an increase in the number of offers for activities and this augmented our enrichment programme which came to include cooking, gardening, visiting different sites for classes, invitations to amazing events like St Paul's Cathedral's Crib service and much more.

Our partnership with Speak Street run by Joanna Bevan has also been a highlight of the year with unfailing commitment to the clients and a whole host of interesting activities to keep us buoyant through the most difficult of times in the autumn term when we were just launching into the sustainability stage.

Similar to last year (Jan 2016) we started Jan 2017 with two full days teaching but what was different to the previous year was that we were not running on reserves but were able to commit funds accordingly knowing that we were working towards a balanced budget. As a result, as additional income was secured, we were able to carefully adjust the provision to ensure that quality delivery was provided and a level of reserves was built up to ensure continuation through to the next academic year.

Clients attend the Centre and through taking part in the ESOL classes and various enrichment activities we are able to build a relationship and listen carefully to clients issues and concerns. Then we are able to refer to Stephen, our Support Service Coordinator is then able to work with the client with the team to overcome and ultimately resolve the problem.

The support service is the point where clients can share their deepest worries and concerns which we work together to overcome through various different ways.

Securing funds from Henry Smith for the Support Service was key to its development and allowed us to review our monitoring and evaluation and to align it to best serve the clients we work with. The following outcomes relate to outcomes as of March 2017, when we were able to open for an additional day and to expand the service to the end of the year.

We provided 579 Support Service sessions, offering support across the full range of issues experienced by clients: asylum support, immigration/asylum issues, welfare benefits, housing and homelessness, debt, employment, education and integration, as well as pastoral support issues. We held on average, 7-12 sessions daily in a safe dedicated space with the Support Service Coordinator supported by volunteers. From March we secured funding to open for an additional day, enabling us to increase the amount of sessions we are able to offer.

We have supported 107 unique individuals through the Support Service; this is distinct to the number of sessions because most of our clients have complex issues, or combinations of issues (such as immigration and homelessness) that require multiple sessions in order to make progress.

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We are able to support clients through hardship with small grants for specific purposes; we have enabled clients to improve their professional development by accessing education, volunteering and employment opportunities; a number of clients now participate in a befriending scheme with partners Host Nation.

We have seen an increase in asylum seeking clients accessing the support service from 65% to 80% during this period since the implementation of our new improved framework, and among that group, we have seen an increase in destitution from 70% to 90%.

Our 'whole centre' approach on support and wellbeing has been key to ensuring individual access the Support Service. We have also worked to meet the needs of our destitute clients across the Centre through, for example, providing a range of donations in kind to meet immediate needs relating to clothing, food, and toiletries.

The key issue for us in delivering the Support Service is the increase in destitution among our asylum seeking clients. While we have always ensured that we are able to support this particularly vulnerable and marginalised group, the increase in both percentage and real numbers means that the support service, even with increased opening hours, has meant that we have had to increasingly focus on meeting acute, complex needs, often with an increasing number of sessions before a resolution is reached. Additionally, the increasing length of time that people are waiting to resolve immigration issues (and so remaining destitute) means that our clients are in acute positions of need for extended periods.

Thanks to our partners and funders we had gained enough funds to open for a third day of delivery in March 2017 to accommodate a robust delivery plan that would continue through to the next year. Throughout the year Speak Street delivered a programme committing to an additional Thursday to make a total of 4 days delivery combined and then with a six week project at the Skip Garden on Friday in the summer, there was a brief taste of 5 day per week delivery! This was really an excellent opportunity for our clients. The combined working and interconnected goals of the Centre and Speak Street really work to the benefit of the clients

Our hugely supportive patron, Juliet Stevenson who is also part of the mighty Highgate has Heart who are working to raise funds for refugees causes held a wonderful event in February 2017 from which their donation contributed significantly to this third day.

One of the strengths of working with multiple grants and trusts is the requirements around reporting and the need to build a robust monitoring and evaluation framework in order that we are able to report the positive impact of the work of the Centre on the lives of our clients. Some of the findings from this process are as follows:

A key element of the Centre's monitoring and evaluation is our client self-reporting forms. These enable us both to understand client perceptions of their own wellbeing, as well as client engagement with, and opinion of, our services.

Emotional health and wellbeing

This aims to measure wellbeing at home and in the Centre. Measurements taken at the beginning of the year relate to wellbeing overall. At the end of the comments relate to feelings in general, or at the Centre. This in year development, although not a direct comparison to the start of the year, allows us to understand the impact the Centre makes on clients wellbeing. This table shows the average score, with 5 being the most, and 1 being the least.

Indicator	Start of the year	End of Year	
		General	At the Centre
Isolation	2.4	3.5	2.3
Stress	3	3.7	1.5
Depression	2.8	3.3	1.5
Financial security	3.1	3.4	1.5
Confident	3.5	2.5	4.1
Part of the community	4.2	2.8	4.5
Like skills and expertise are respected	2.5	2.7	4.4

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It can be seen that clients feel improved wellbeing while at the Centre. The comparisons will become clearer as we move forward into the next year. We will also better develop an understanding of factors that affect clients' wellbeing outside the delivery strategy of the Centre.

Positive developments

We asked clients a yes/no question about what positive developments they thought had occurred in the past year. The following data contains relates to clients' whole life experiences and we aim to see which areas the Centre's activities and services are positively contributing.

Outcome	Proportion of clients who agree
I feel happier	65%
I feel emotionally stronger	73%
I feel more confident	74%
I feel more connected to the community	70%
I feel my English skills have improved	100%
I have been able to achieve some of my goals	61%
I feel I am making progress in my life	70%
I feel like I have solved some of my problems.	61%

It can be seen that our work in ESOL contributes towards the 100% of clients who stated 'I feel my English skills have improved'. The first four lines above can be attributed to the work in the Enrichment activities that work to develop these aspects of wellbeing. Looking forward and planning for individuals in a state of impasse with their immigration status is a very difficult task but we can see that goals have been met and progress is being made. The support service exists to resolve problems that are complex and take a long time to unravel and we feel that 61% feeling they have solved some problems is a very positive step.

We are making a substantive positive difference, even where clients are experiencing very little movement towards a decision on their immigration status or resolution of related mental health conditions.

Services

In order to ensure the appropriateness of our activities and service provision, we ask clients directly to comment on each area's usefulness. The activities and services aim to respond directly to clients' needs and requests and of course this will vary from client to client.

The responses are presented in the following table:

Service	Usefulness
ESOL	4.6
Support Service	3.5
Arts activities	3.9
Social activities	4
Physical wellbeing activities	2.7
Financial assistance	4.2
Outings	4.3
Access to progression opportunities	3.6

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The figures in the Usefulness column are the average score across clients, with 5 being the most, 1 the least. With all above average, including physical wellbeing these outcomes indicate good engagement across the board. Strengths are the English language classes and outings and financial assistance which refers to reimbursement of travel expenses for asylum seekers and hardship support identified through the Support Service

There was an additional open question exploring what additional services clients want, both at the beginning and end of the year. There is significant continuity between the start and the end of the year, suggesting that the desire for some specific additional services is key to clients and we should explore ways to support access to them or to develop them at the Centre. The key additional services are: access to ICT/Computer classes; access to more legal advice around complex problems; assessments/certificates for ESOL; more physical activities; more social activities; access to therapy/counselling; to open for more days of the year.

Our staff remained committed to the Centre throughout the changes and their determination and drive was reinforced as we developed the roles to include further strands in line with the changes in delivery. Anya's role developed to include Community Liaison to work with partners in bringing further outside interest to the Centre on every level from enrichment activities to inviting to events. Chris' role moved towards incorporating Volunteer Management duties to help coordinate our wonderful volunteers who do so much for our clients at the Centre. Stephen, our Support Service Coordinator continued to manage the support service volunteers and moved effortlessly into a new bespoke system to help us manage the support service and assist with reporting to our funders.

With all of the above taken into consideration, we maintained momentum throughout the year allowing our clients to attend regularly in the knowledge that they can access our services as they need them. One of the main reasons for this is that our service delivery is led by our clients and this drives us to deliver and our clients to attend.

Working with asylum seekers has many ups and downs depending on the outcomes from individuals' case but suffice to say that the same time we are fortunate to hear the good news first hand from those successful in their asylum claims, we also share concern at the difficult times when cases were refused when we would have to go straight back to the drawing board on many occasions due to the stress that clients undergo under these strenuous and testing circumstances. The purpose of the Centre is to look forward, plan and rebuild and it can be very frustrating when people with clear talent and skills do not have the opportunity to demonstrate, exercise and develop their skills.

The main trend throughout the client group at the Centre the recent years is that the number of destitute asylum seekers is increasing at a steady rate. In the past we have worked with different client profiles include majority refugees, majority migrants, equal refugees and asylum seekers, asylum seekers on NASS benefits and now a majority of destitute asylum seekers. The main reasons for this are firstly the nature of the services we offer appeal to this group (and is indeed informed by this group) and that fact that they are accessible but also because clients speak of the Centre with friends and associates while at various appointments or in different communities that tend to include destitute asylum seekers. There are many common themes across our asylum seeker client base including the feeling of helplessness especially when not able to speak English, isolation, hardship, health issues, housing issues and it is these issues which we strive to improve through the work of the Centre.

At a governance level our board of trustees led by our chair Victor de Waal have been working hard to create a robust organisation and one which remains nimble in moving forward towards potentially new challenges but with the assurance of its own abilities and with a keen eye on the past as much as on the future. One key success was in the review of our Safeguarding policy, we developed a Safeguarding suite that addressed all areas of concern for our vulnerable client group. Part of this was the cross Centre dissemination of information and the culture of openness where we can all work together safely and with the best interests of the clients at the forefront. Additionally we developed a Trustee Code of Conduct as good practice to ensure the current level of commitment and great work at board level continues to grow. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the trustees for all their commitment over the year and for being a key part of the Centre's success.

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The year saw some significant partnerships flourish through the development of our working partnership base. We have strong links with Highgate has Heart, St Paul's Cathedral, St Mary's Islington, Unity Chapel round the corner and many other businesses and organisations that keep us afloat with donations and raffle prizes.

We work with amazing volunteers who have stood with us through thick and thin and helped to keep us on track by supporting the work we do at every level. We would like to thank each and every one for their hard work and commitment without which we would be unable to support so many individuals.

I would like to officially thank our funders who have had faith in the work we do and in many cases have come to see it first hand. Please see the funder list further on in this report.

Facts and Figures - A closer look at our client group

I would like to report on the client data as follows:

181 clients registered for services throughout 2016-17 compared with 163 the previous year.

Given the developments over the recent years in our delivery programme and schedule, we have seen an increase in the number of refugee and asylum seeker clients. We were open two days per week for the first part of the year and then increasing to three days per week during this year as a result of demand for our provision.

The balance of Male to Female this year was 48% Male and 52% Female. Last year at it was 52% Male and 48% Female so there is a 4 point increase in the number of female clients. Prior to last year we worked with a larger majority of women. This change from last year is due to the way clients' share their experiences of the Centre within their communities through word of mouth which means we see swings in nationalities. Interesting the two single highest nationality gender groups are Congolese men at 16% and Congolese women also at 16%. The next is Eritrean women at 7% with Eritrean men at 3% followed by Turkish women at 6% with the men at 1%. With all other nationalities more equally represented it is these differences which explain the variance.

The immigration status of our clients can be represented in the following table:

Status	2016-17 (%)	2015-16 (%)	2014-15 (%)
Refugee	24	25	29
Migrant	14	12	34
Spouse Visa	2	4	3
Ankara Agreement	0	1	0
Asylum Seekers	60	58	34
Total	100	100	100

Asylum Seekers who receive no benefits: 74 % of Asylum Seekers (78% 2015-16 81% 2014-15)
This 74% represents: 45 % of all clients (45% 2015-16 27% 2014-15)

From the table we can see we have 24% refugees and 60% asylum seekers. This means that we continue to work with a huge majority, 84%, of clients who are fleeing persecution from their country.

The figure 74% of all asylum seekers who receive no benefit at all is very concerning and highlights the continued need for provision of services to asylum seekers. In the last few years we have moved from over a third of all clients being destitute asylum seekers without the right to work to half during this year. Again, this is owing to the profile of services and also the primary method of recruitment which is word of mouth; asylum seekers are finding it increasingly difficult to access English language services at other organisations due to limiting factors of cost, travel and a reduction in government funded ESOL classes in London.

At first glance, it seems from the above table that the percentage of asylum seekers who receive no benefits at all is going down; however, this is deceptive as the proportion of asylum seekers has increased to nearly double in two years. This means that actual numbers of destitute asylum seekers becomes the key issue and if we compare last year's 69 out of a total of 88 to this year's 81 out of 109 we start to see the real picture: the number of both destitute asylum seekers and those receiving some kind of support is increasing.

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We welcome people from around the world and are proud of our diversity. It is this approach which maintains a harmonious atmosphere which in turn encourages us to celebrate our differences and each person for their own qualities. This leads us to the nationalities: 'Which nationalities do you work with?' We are proud to celebrate clients from these nationalities:

The 40 (32 in 2015-16 so an increase of 8) nationalities in order of most to least represented are:

Congolese, Eritrean, Ecuadorian, Turkish, Sudanese, Syrian, Angolan, Ethiopian, Colombian, Brazilian, Cameroonian, Italian, Ivorian, Nigerian, Iranian, Spanish, Ghanaian, Iraqi, Abkhazian, Albanian, Algerian, Bangladeshi, Belarus, British (naturalised), Burkino Faso, Cuban, French, Guinean, Indian, Madagascan, Mauritian, Moroccan, Nigerien, Pakistani, Romanian, Russian, Somali, Sri Lankan, Ukrainian and Vietnamese

This increase of 8 from the 32 nationalities the previous year is due to attracting asylum seekers from countries from historical cases who have been waiting for a decision for in some cases up to 10 years and possibly more. Over time we attract people who need the support and tend to retain people who may not have a strong community represented by their nationality.

From which parts of London do the clients come from? This is recorded through the Boroughs in which our clients live and from where they travel to get to the Centre. The top 5 boroughs for 2016-17 are as follows:

Year 2016-17		Previous 2015-16		2014-15	
Borough	% of Clients	Borough	% of Clients	Borough	% of Clients
Islington	29	Islington	24	Islington	19
Haringey	12	Haringey	13	Hackney	17
Hackney	11	Hackney	8	Haringey	17
Enfield	6	Southwark	8	Enfield	8
Barking and Dagenham/Brent	=4	Enfield	7	Southwark	7

As can be seen, the number of those in Islington has increased by 5 percentage points which is due to homelessness in Islington and clients therefore accessing our services in Islington and a tendency to retain those local to the area. The next two are neighbouring Haringey and Hackney as expected. The Centre has relatively high representation from Enfield, Barking and Dagenham and also Brent. There are many boroughs represented by one or two individuals and these include boroughs as far afield as Harrow, Wandsworth and Merton. Many clients travel on bus journeys from these far reaching boroughs for around two hours long and we recognise their great commitment and are encouraged by their drive. There are clients who also come in from the Home Counties who have been housed by a host family or a housing organisation with premises outside London.

Being in the sustainability stage of our strategy and keeping our clients needs firmly in sight keeps us all striving forward to improve the lives of our clients and together we are able to continue positively contributing to each other's lives and to work collectively to help those in greatest need. I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in the work of Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants however small or large a part that may be. And finally, we must thank the clients for all their hope and positivity and for whom the Centre exists to support.

Fundraising Report

This year, we have made considerable progress in developing our fundraising capacity.

A new Head of Fundraising and Development, Katie Commons, was hired in November 2016. Katie undertook significant work to understand the current and historic fundraising context for the Centre, and scoping work to develop potential new avenues of funding.

In the course of the year, four major multi-year grants were secured, covering a range of the Centre's work. This included the Henry Smith Charity, funding our Support Service, Comic Relief, supporting infrastructure development, the City Bridge Trust, supporting our ESOL provision, and the Stanley Thomas Johnson Foundation, funding our core work, with a focus on the holistic work we do to improve client wellbeing overall. This, together with our existing grant from the Islington Council VCS Programme, will assist us in providing our core services to

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2020, as well as providing a strong foundation for further fundraising. Progress has also been made in developing relationships with smaller funders to access both restricted and non-restricted funding, and this is an area that we will be continuing to develop.

Work has been undertaken to better understand our community partners - individuals, groups, and churches - and to better communicate with them through a regular newsletter. An improved online donation function is now live, which automatically collects GiftAid. We have begun a programme of outreach to potential community and individual donors. Unrestricted funding is crucial to the Centre, as it enables us to work as flexibly as possible to meet clients' changing needs, even where grant funding is not possible to attain. It also builds strong relationships which can be the basis for other forms of support, such as donations in kind, as well as developing potential joint fundraising applications to maximise resource and minimise cost.

Our fundraising infrastructure has been substantially developed, with new tools in place to monitor income, particularly restricted funding. We have new monitoring and evaluation policies and processes to better enable us to monitor our work, and understand its impact.

We are now working to the strategy developed in 2016/17, with regular reviews of progress, and proactive action taken to ensure that we meet our budgets and are able to respond to changes in, for example, the wider funding context, or in being able to appropriately meet our clients' changing needs.

Thank You to Our Funders and Supporters

We would like to extend our huge thanks to all of our funders and supporters in 2016-17 who have made it possible for us to work with and support so many individuals in great need. They are as follows:

Trusts and Grants

29th May 1961 Charitable Trust
Charles French Charitable Trust
Comic Relief
Henry Smith Charity
Islington Council
Lloyds Enable Fund
London Churches Refugee Fund
Richard Cloudesley's Charity
Sharegift
Waylan Trust

Community Partners

Aesop
Bedhampton Parish - St Thomas & St Nicholas
Christchurch
Church on the Corner
Eclectic Voices
Haberdashers' Aske's School
Highgate Has Heart
Islington and Hackney Amnesty Group
Society of the Sacred Cross
Songworks Choir
Speak Street
St Mary's Islington Donation
St Paul's Cathedral
St Thomas Church
Union Chapel
Westminster Abbey

Thank you to all the amazing individual supporters who have donated to the work of the Centre throughout the year. These donations are essential in order to carry out the work of the Centre.

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Bank Accounts

The Centre's main bank account remained with the Cooperative Bank and no further bank accounts were opened throughout the year. The Centre has an account with PayPal in order to receive online donations. Donations are also received via the BT MyDonate website.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants is committed to its objectives in all its activities. The principal activity, in line with Charity Commissions public benefit description, the advancement of education, is the delivery of a range of services including: English to refugees (including asylum seekers) and migrants, art and creative writing, dance, choir and exercise based activities in order to build confidence within and up-skill all those who access our services. In addition to this, all clients have access to a range of other services that help to relieve both short and long term hardship.

On completing activities at the Centre many of our clients progress onto additional higher level further education courses in their chosen subject area, volunteer roles in the community or to paid employment positions. Asylum seekers who are prohibited from working are welcomed to continue attending the Centre while they await the outcome of their asylum application.

Volunteering is a critical element in the development of a strong community and it is this which mutually benefits the wider community and the Centre. At any given time there are around 40 volunteers working at the Centre undertaking as varied as preparing food parcels to supporting clients with their everyday (or more complex) problems to facilitating craft groups to furthering their experiences of British life through our enrichment programme.

TRUSTEES

The trustees (who also act as directors for Companies Act purposes) who served during the year are as follows:

	Appointment Start	Appointment End
Rev Victor de Waal (Chair)	01/09/10	Continuing
Teresa Dodgson	21/06/12	Continuing
Gladys Jusu Sheriff	21/06/12	Continuing
Beverley van der Sluis	21/06/12	Continuing
James Fletcher	04/10/12	Continuing
Edward Vargas Caceres	04/10/12	Continuing
Dean Anderson	18/04/16	Continuing
Jo Cobley	05/12/16	Continuing

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs and of the surplus or deficit for the year.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- 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 financial statements, and whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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The trustees are responsible for:

- keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity; and
- safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include:

- agreement on strategy and an annual budget approved by the trustees;
- regular consideration by the trustees of financial results, variance from budgets, and non-financial performance indicators;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties; and
- identification and management of risks.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Centre has in place a Health and Safety policy which includes a Risk Assessment.

The Centre has Employers' Liability insurance with Ecclesiastical Insurance Office plc.

The Centre has Public Liability insurance with Ecclesiastical Insurance Office plc.

The Centre has in place a Safeguarding Policy for vulnerable adults and children that it works with.

The trustees recognise that the main incoming funds have previously come through a contract with Waltham Forest College but with funding changes in the Adult Skills Budget this funding was no longer be available after 2014-15. Consequently the trustees have put in place a strategy to include fundraising that will spread the income over a number of different funding streams in addition to the individual and organisation donations that the Centre receives.

The trustees have compiled an active risk register in order to manage any issues and to minimise disruption in the event of a realised risk.

The trustees have prepared a Code of Conduct for the trustees to adhere to.

RESERVES

The net current assets of £80,565 comprise a restricted fund of £20,507 and a free reserves fund of £60,058. The free reserves element of the current assets represents approximately 3 months' running costs.

This report was approved by the Board on:

5th March 2018 (Date)

and signed on its behalf by:

Victor de Waal (Signature)

Victor de Waal
Chair of Trustees

ISLINGTON CENTRE FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ISLINGTON CENTRE FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2017 which comprise a Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.



Mr J P Foxwell FCCA FCIE
independent-examiner.net

39 Enfield Road
Poole
BH15 3LJ

Date: 22 February 2018

ISLINGTON CENTRE FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2017 (including an Income and Expenditure Account)

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2017 £	2016 £
INCOME					
Voluntary income		121,593	20,068	141,661	94,599
Activities for generating funds		5,010	-	5,010	6,241
Charitable activities	2	-	74,340	74,340	-
Other income		5	-	5	21
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total income		<u>126,608</u>	<u>94,408</u>	<u>221,016</u>	<u>100,863</u>
EXPENDITURE					
Costs of generating income		9,252	1,844	11,096	11,450
Charitable activities	3	91,926	72,057	163,983	142,663
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total expenditure		<u>101,178</u>	<u>73,901</u>	<u>175,079</u>	<u>154,114</u>
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		25,430	20,507	45,937	(53,250)
Funds brought forward		34,628	-	34,628	87,479
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Funds carried forward		<u>£60,058</u>	<u>£20,507</u>	<u>£80,565</u>	<u>£34,628</u>

The Statement of Financial Activities reflects the results of continuing activities for the year.

There are no recognised gains and losses other than those shown in the Statement of Financial Activities.

ISLINGTON CENTRE FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

Balance Sheet at 31 August 2017

	Notes	£	2017 £	£	2016 £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank and in hand		80,869		35,279	
		<u>80,869</u>		<u>35,279</u>	
CREDITORS – amounts falling due in less than one year	5	(304)		(650)	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>£80,565</u>		<u>£34,629</u>
FUNDS					
General fund			60,058		34,629
Designated funds			-		-
			<u>60,058</u>		<u>34,629</u>
Total unrestricted funds			60,058		34,629
Restricted funds	6		20,507		-
			<u>£80,565</u>		<u>£34,629</u>
Total funds			<u>£80,565</u>		<u>£34,629</u>

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year by virtue of section 477, and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the trustees on:

5th March 2018 (Date)

and signed on its behalf by:

Victor de Waal (Signature)

Victor de Waal
Chair of Trustees

ISLINGTON CENTRE FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2017

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015) – Charities SORP (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

(a) Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the charitable company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member.

(b) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charitable company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

(c) Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charitable company is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

(d) Pensions

During the financial year ending 31 August 2017 pension provision continued with the employer's contribution being 3% for all current and future contracted staff members. This was effective as of 1 April 2012.

(e) Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Governance costs, now included within charitable activity costs, are those incurred in connection with administration of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

ISLINGTON CENTRE FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2017

2 INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2017	Total 2016
	£	£	£	£
Lloyds Foundation (Enable Fund)	-	15,000	15,000	-
Islington Council VCS	-	15,000	15,000	-
Henry Smith Charity	-	24,400	24,400	-
Comic Relief	-	19,940	19,940	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>74,340</u>	<u>74,340</u>	<u>£nil</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>74,340</u>	<u>74,340</u>	<u>£nil</u>

3 COSTS OF ACTIVITIES IN FURTHERANCE OF THE CHARITABLE OBJECTS

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2017	Total 2016
	£	£	£	£
Travel Expenses ESOL	19,928	4,350	24,278	10,196
Art Tutor	2,847	-	2,847	3,120
Art Materials	945	-	945	878
Volunteer Travel Expenses	3,010	85	3,095	2,893
Travel Expenses - Other	815	-	815	123
Enrichment Activities	239	-	239	245
Choir	1,150	-	1,150	1,260
Hospitality	997	-	997	809
Hospitality (Hot Lunches)	-	-	-	566
Payments to Beneficiaries	4,917	15,551	20,468	19,579
Stationery	158	-	158	160
Phone Centre Office	203	99	302	353
Computers and ICT Costs	264	-	264	219
Broadband	485	-	485	445
Photocopying	267	-	267	845
Subscriptions	35	-	35	35
Website	80	-	80	280
Publicity – Information	-	-	-	229
Resources	-	-	-	47
Equipment	303	-	303	243
Rent	9,388	1,472	10,860	9,055
Insurance	1,598	-	1,598	1,719
Staff Salaries	40,258	45,495	85,753	56,877
Employers NI	505	2,281	2,786	1,909
Payroll	847	-	847	658
Staff Training	-	910	910	393
Pensions Trust Payments	1,929	644	2,573	1,706
Training costs	-	1,170	1,170	-
Redundancy costs	-	-	-	26,973
Independent examination	745	-	745	635
Filing fee	13	-	13	13
Other costs	-	-	-	200
	<u>£91,926</u>	<u>£72,057</u>	<u>£163,983</u>	<u>£142,663</u>
TOTALS	<u>£91,926</u>	<u>£72,057</u>	<u>£163,983</u>	<u>£142,663</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended 31 August 2017

4 STAFF COSTS

	Total 2017	Total 2016
	£	£
Salaries and wages	85,753	56,877
Social security costs	2,786	1,909
Pension costs	2,737	1,706
Redundancy costs	-	26,973
	<u>£91,276</u>	<u>£87,365</u>

No employees had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2016 – nil).

The average monthly head count was 5 staff (2016 – 5 staff).

5 TRUSTEES

No trustee received any remuneration during the year. No expenses were reimbursed to any trustee during the year ending 31 August 2017.

6 RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance b/f	Income	Expenditure	Balance c/f
	£	£	£	£
Islington VCS fund	-	15,000	(15,000)	-
Lloyds Enable fund	-	15,000	(15,000)	-
Speak Street fund	-	2,850	(2,850)	-
LCRF fund	-	750	(750)	-
Henry Smith fund	-	24,400	(12,200)	12,200
Comic Relief fund	-	19,940	(13,300)	6,640
Richard Cloudesley – Catalyst fund	-	5,000	(3,333)	1,667
Richard Cloudseley – Welfare fund	-	11,468	(11,468)	-
	<u>£nil</u>	<u>£94,408</u>	<u>£(73,901)</u>	<u>£20,507</u>