

Hope Projects (West Midlands) Limited

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

**For the year ended
31st March 2023**

**Registered Charity number: 1138402
Company number: 07341898**

Hope Project (West Midlands) Limited
(A company limited by guarantee)

Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2023

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Hope Project (West Midlands) Limited
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Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustee and advisors for the year ended 31st March 2023

Trustees	D C Bennett Dr S Guru Ms C Short (resigned 25/11/22) Dr R Sondhi Rev N W Johnson Ms L Calvey D J Bradley
Company registered number	07341898
Charity registered number	1138402
Registered office	196 - 198 Edward Road Balsall Heath Birmingham B12 9LX
Company secretary	P W Davis
Independent examiner	D E Chittenden
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank 4 Brindleyplace Birmingham B1 2JB

Trustees report for the year ended 31st March 2023

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Hope Projects exists to promote the welfare of asylum-seekers and immigrants in the West Midlands who are not settled or are recently settled in the United Kingdom within the meaning of the immigration act 1971 by the following means:

- (a) the relief of poverty of such immigrants by the direct provision of assistance in cash or in kind to meet their accommodation or subsistence needs or reasonable expenses;
- (b) the relief of the physical and mental sickness of such immigrants, in particular by the provision of counselling and support;
- (c) the relief of financial hardship by the provision of free legal advice and assistance to such immigrants who, through lack of means, would otherwise be unable to obtain such advice;
- (d) to advance the education of the public in general about the issues relating to refugees and those seeking asylum; and
- (e) to promote human rights (as set out in the universal declaration of human rights and subsequent united nations conventions and declarations) throughout the world by all or any of the following means:

- Monitoring abuses of human rights;
- Obtaining redress for the victims of human rights abuse;
- Relieving need among the victims of human rights abuse;
- Research into human rights issues;
- Commenting on proposed human rights legislation;
- Raising awareness of human rights issues;
- Promoting public support for human rights;
- Promoting respect for human rights among individuals and corporations;
- Eliminating infringements of human rights.

In furtherance of these objectives, but not otherwise, the trustees shall have power to engage in political activity provided that the trustees are satisfied that the proposed activities will further the purposes of the charity to an extent justified by the resources committed and the activity is not the dominant means by which the charity carried out its objectives.

Our Theory of change states that:

"Our overall aim is to overturn flawed refusals of asylum and so enable people to escape destitution and homelessness. The most important person in the fight against flawed asylum refusals and destitution is the one that has been refused."

Our principal client group are those in the West Midlands made destitute by flawed asylum refusals.

Our principal services to that client group are:

- Free legal advice and representation
- Provision of accommodation
- Promotion of wellbeing
- Financial support

Outcomes

Last year we provided housing for 57 people, crisis grants of £71,000 to 105 people with no other means of support and gave legal advice to 128 homeless refused asylum seekers. 47 of our clients were able to move on to statutory housing and support; and 26, who had all been 'fully refused' by the asylum system, were recognized as refugees and were able to start new lives in safety here in the UK.

New services

With funding from the Justice Together Initiative we have employed a trainee with lived experience of the asylum system, with the intention of helping him achieve OISC 2 asylum and immigration advice. This has allowed us to extend the area we cover to include Stoke on Trent.

Funding from DLUHC has allowed us to create 3 Rapid Assessment Beds, where people sleeping rough as a result of the asylum system can be housed for up to 3 months while we carry out a full legal assessment of their situation and help them determine their options.

National Lottery funding has supported our new Wellbeing project, helping homeless people access medical care and activities to boost their wellbeing.

Hope Asylum Voices is a new initiative bringing Hope clients together monthly to better understand the asylum system; to have fun and to influence the development of Hope Projects.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income for the year amounted to £414,300 (2022: £366,624) whilst expenditure amounted to £394,800 (2022: £367,424). This gave rise to a surplus of £19,499 (2022: -£800) and an increase in funds to 207,409 (2022: £187,910).

RESERVES POLICY

The term "Reserves" is used to describe that part of a charity's income funds that is freely available for its operating purposes not subject to commitments, planned expenditure and spending limits. Reserves do not include endowment funds, restricted funds and designated funds.

Designated funds

Hope Projects has designated funds of £50,000 to cover the costs of providing essential services to our clients should our income become interrupted; and £20,000 to meet any unexpected repair and refurbishment costs to our properties.

Reserves

Hope Projects has set a target for free reserves (after designated funds) of 15% of our budgeted expenditure for the following year. For this year that would be £71,000

Our free reserves (after designated funds) at 31/3/2022 were £58,089.

Public benefit

The public benefit that flows from objective a) is increased safety and improved health for beneficiaries in receipt of accommodation and financial support, and a reduction in street homelessness benefitting both recipients and the wider community.

The public benefit from objective b) is improved health from increased engagement with primary and mental health services; enhanced active citizenship; a contribution to the life of the region through increased involvement in creative, sporting and educational activities; and increased volunteering.

The public benefit from objective c) is increased engagement with asylum decision making and improved asylum decision making, including the rectifying of miscarriages of justice that would have led to destitution or removal from the UK to face likely persecution.

The public benefit from objective d) is enhanced community integration and raised awareness of asylum related issues.

No significant work was carried out under objective e).

Trustees are confident that significant public benefit has flowed from Hope Projects' work in this year, and that there has been no harm.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Hope Project (West Midlands) Limited
(A company limited by guarantee)

**Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of the
Hope Project (West Midlands Limited)**

I report on the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31st March 2023

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 ('the 1993 Act') and that an independent examination is needed. The charity has prepared accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 43 (3) (a) of the 1993 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners made under section 43 (7) (b) of the 1993 Act.
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention


Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners and with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church, and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention :-

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the requirements: to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Regulations; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act and Regulation 8 of the 2006 Regulations; and which are consistent with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 
David Chittenden
18 Cunningham Road
Peterborough
PE2 9RG

Date: 14/9/2023

Hope Projects (West Midlands) Limited
Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and Notes
Year Ended 31st March 2023

	Note	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Income and Enforcements from:					
Donations and legacies	2	185,015	218,047	403,063	355,850
Charitable activities	3	0	9,872	9,872	10,684
Bank interest		0	1,365	1,365	91
		<u>185,015</u>	<u>229,284</u>	<u>414,300</u>	<u>366,624</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4		14,908	14,908	14,700
Charitable activities	5/6	166,790	193,102	379,892	352,724
Total expenditure		<u>166,790</u>	<u>208,010</u>	<u>384,800</u>	<u>367,424</u>
Net income		(1,775)	21,274	19,499	-500
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total Funds brought forward		59,821	126,069	187,910	168,709
Total Funds carried forward		<u>58,046</u>	<u>149,363</u>	<u>207,409</u>	<u>167,910</u>
Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2023					
Current Assets					
Debtors	9			42,071	11,014
Cash at bank and in hand	10			<u>181,637</u>	<u>207,468</u>
				<u>223,709</u>	<u>218,482</u>
Current Liabilities					
Liabilities falling due within one year	11			16,299	30,572
Net Assets				<u>207,409</u>	<u>167,910</u>
Represented by:-					
Unrestricted Funds	13			149,363	126,069
Restricted Funds	13			<u>58,046</u>	<u>59,821</u>
Total Funds				<u>207,409</u>	<u>167,910</u>

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) confirm that for the period ended 31 March 2023:-

the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act"), and members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the period in question in accordance with section 475 of the Act. However, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The notes form an integral part of these accounts.

These accounts, which have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and Notes
Year Ended 31st March 2023

Notes:

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Preparation

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost in accordance with the Accounting Regulations set out under the Charities Act 1993 and with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2005 - Second Edition

(b) Form of Financial Statements

- (i) Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity
- (ii) Restricted funds may only be used by specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes.

(c) Incoming Resources

- (i) Incoming Resources are recognised and included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Charity becomes entitled to the resources; the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
- (ii) Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising), the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.
- (iii) Donations are accounted for gross when received.
- (iv) Bank interest is recognised when it is credited to the account.

(d) Expenditure and Liabilities

- (i) Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.
- (ii) Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay out resources.

(e) Assets

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they cost more than £1,000 and can be used for more than one year. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at value on receipt. The charity does not currently have any capitalised fixed assets.

(f) Taxation

The charity is not liable for income or capital gains tax on its charitable activities. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the asset cost or or expense to which it relates.

2. Income from donations and legacies	Restricted	Unrestricted	2023	2022
Donations	0	29,836	29,836	29,070
Grants:				
A B Charitable Trust		20,000	20,000	15,000
Barrow Cadbury	20,000		20,000	20,165
DLUHC	17,345		17,345	0
Edward C Oldham Charitable Trust		0	0	500
Justice Together Initiative	3,251		3,251	0
Lloyds Bank Foundation		27,250	27,250	25,000
Oak Foundation	74,122		74,122	77,170
Refugee Action		2,400	2,400	0
South Birmingham Friends Institute Trust		0	0	5,000
The Access to Justice Foundation	12,792		12,792	40,000
The Blue Thread		25,000	25,000	0
The Cole Charitable Trust		57,061	57,061	53,060
The Eveson Charitable Trust		10,000	10,000	0
The Grimmit Trust		2,500	2,500	0
The National Lottery Community Fund	21,885		21,885	21,885
The Roughley Trust		39,000	39,000	39,000
The Saintbury Trust		5,000	5,000	0
The Sheldon Trust	5,000		5,000	0
Tudor Trust	30,000		30,000	30,000
Yardley Great Trust	620		620	0
Other			0	0
	185,015	218,047	403,063	355,850
3. Income from charitable activities				
Rental		9,872	9,872	10,684
4. Expenditure on generating donations and legacies				
Unrestricted funds				
Raising funds		14,908	14,908	14,700
5. Costs of charitable activities by fund type	Restricted	Unrestricted	2023	2022
Charitable activities	186,790	135,175	321,966	303,290
Support costs		57,926	57,926	49,434
	186,790	193,102	379,892	352,724

Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and Notes
Year Ended 31st March 2023

6. Analysis of support costs

Salaries	35,026	14,102
Communication costs	1,307	873
Office costs	7,173	13,430
Premises costs	7,988	7,826
Legal and professional	2,400	7,858
Other operating costs	4,034	5,345
	<u>57,926</u>	<u>49,434</u>

7. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits and no expenses were claimed (2022: Nil)

8. Staff costs and emoluments

Salaries and wages	185,984	150,094
Social security costs	12,185	8,490
Employers contribution to defined contribution pension scheme	<u>5,619</u>	<u>4,203</u>
	203,788	162,786

There were no employees (2022: Nil) whose emoluments (salaries, wages, benefits in kind) fell in a band in excess of £60,000.

The average number of persons employed by the Charity, including part time staff, calculated on a full time equivalent basis was: 7

Core staff	7.80	6.55
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9. Debtors

Prepaid Expenses	12,071	11,014
Accrued Revenue	30,000	
Other		
	<u>42,071</u>	<u>11,014</u>

10. Bank and Cash Balances

Unity Trust Bank current account	3,149	35,105
Unity Trust Bank deposit account	177,083	170,718
Petty Cash	1	3
Equals cards	<u>1,404</u>	<u>1,643</u>
	181,637	207,468

11. Current Liabilities (payable within one year)

Accounts Payable	3,884	8,631
Accruals and deferred income	6,945	11,361
Payroll Liabilities	5,470	10,580
Prepaid Income		
	<u>16,299</u>	<u>30,572</u>

12. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year (2022: Nil)

13. Movements between Funds	At 1st April 2022			At 1st April 2023	
	Income	Expenditure	Transfers		
Designated			70,000		70,000
General	128,089	229,284	208,010	(70,000)	79,363
Unrestricted Funds	128,089	229,284	208,010	0	149,363
Restricted Funds					
Donations		0	0		0
Barrow Cadbury		20,000	10,000		10,000
Community Justice Fund	13,720		13,720		0
DLUHC		17,345	17,345		0
Justice Together Initiative		3,251	3,251		0
Oak Foundation		74,122	50,292		23,830
The Access to Justice Foundation		12,792	12,792		0
The Sheldon Trust		5,000	5,000		0
The National Lottery Community Fund	21,885	21,885	43,770		0
Tudor Trust	24,216	30,000	30,000.00		24,216
Yardley Great Trust		620	620		0
Total Restricted Funds	59,821	185,015	186,790	0	58,046
Total Funds	187,910	414,300	394,800	0	207,409

Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and Notes
Year Ended 31st March 2023
Prior year

	At 1st April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 1st April 2022
Unrestricted Funds	154,994	148,329	175,235		128,088
Restricted Funds	33,715	218,295	192,189		59,821
Total Funds	<u>188,709</u>	<u>366,624</u>	<u>367,424</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>187,909</u>

