



**CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From** 30/09/2021 **Period start date** **To** 01/04/2023 **Period end date**

**Charity name:** Life Seekers Aid

**Charity registration number:** 1195995

### **Objectives and Activities**

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The objects of the CIO are for the public benefit:  (a) To advance the education and training of those applying for and granted refugee status and their dependants in need thereof so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community.  (b) To relieve financial hardship amongst those applying for and granted refugee status and their dependants living (temporarily or permanently) in the United Kingdom.'

<p>Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.</p>	<p>Para 1.17 and 1.19</p>	<p>Life Seekers Aid (LSA) organises and runs education and training sessions for those applying for, and those recently granted, refugee status in the UK. These sessions aim to demystify the asylum process, and help asylum seekers and refugees adjust to life within their new community in the UK.</p> <p>Where appropriate, we refer beneficiaries to organisations and experts qualified to provide specialist legal and medical assistance.</p> <p>With new funding we have received, we plan to expand these training sessions into full, multilingual workshops, facilitated by trained volunteers - all themselves refugees, and accompanied by leaflets explaining and summarising everything covered in the course. These sessions will provide beneficiaries with a clear basic understanding of how the British asylum process works, and their rights and responsibilities whilst navigating it.</p> <p>We also partner with other charities to help to organise and distribute donations of clothing, food and other essential supplies</p>
<p>Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit</p>	<p>Para 1.18</p>	<p>Our trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and have kept this in mind when establishing LSA's objectives and making any decisions on behalf of LSA.</p> <p>Everything LSA does is done for the public benefit. Our work aims directly to improve the lives of a public class (asylum seekers and refugees in Britain) by offering them advice and support navigating the asylum process, and helping to look after their material needs where possible.</p> <p>Our work also aims indirectly to strengthen community ties in the UK at large by helping asylum seekers and refugees to become settled and productive members of British society.</p>

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	<p>SORP reference</p>	
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Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>Life Seekers Aid works with volunteers from refugee and migrant backgrounds, who facilitate the work we do by helping us organise and distribute material aid donations and providing interpretation services. All of these volunteers have had to go through the asylum process themselves and so are well placed to support others in this position. At the moment, we offer some limited training to these volunteers; we hope to expand this training as funding allows over the next year.</p> <p>We also work with volunteers from the local community who help us ensure that beneficiaries are registered with local GPs and school-age beneficiaries are registered at local schools. This is an important part of the process by which we help asylum seekers and refugees settle within their new local communities.</p> <p>We are incredibly grateful to our volunteers for all the time they have spent supporting our work. Without their contribution, LSA could not continue to operate.</p>
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>Para 1.20</p>	<p>Every week for the past year, our volunteers have met around 50 newly arrived asylum seekers in total, and assessed their needs. The large majority of these asylum seekers have little in the way of clothing, toiletries and basic essentials. Life Seekers volunteers find out what each person needs, and then try to match them up with supplies donated to the East London Mosque.</p> <p>While assessing their needs, we also speak to them about the asylum process as a whole, and invite them to attend the training sessions that we offer. Currently, there is very little support or guidance offered by the government to asylum seekers, and navigating the asylum process can be incredibly complicated, scary and immiserating.</p> <p>Because our refugee volunteers speak a wide variety of languages between them, and have all been through the asylum process themselves, they are incredibly well placed to offer this support in a kind and open manner. If those we speak to have any specific legal or medical issues or concerns, we connect them with specialists</p>
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**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

<p>Achievements against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	
<p>Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	
<p>Investment performance against objectives</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	
<p>Other</p>		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>After Life Seekers Aid first opened our bank account in early 2022, we received a single unrestricted private donation of £15.</p> <p>In late 2022, Life Seekers Aid began applying for funding from corporate partnerships and public grants.</p> <p>We were awarded £3,000 from the Lush Charity Pot in November 2022. This is a restricted fund which has been awarded to us to finance a series of multilingual workshops on the asylum process that we will run for our beneficiaries. This money will be used to cover the running costs of the course, allowing us to train and equip our refugee case workers to lead it, to print materials related to the course's content, and to design and print flyers to advertise it.</p> <p>We have begun implementing our plan to set up the workshops, and have so far spent £401.89. Over the next year, we aim to complete this plan and offer the course to as many of our beneficiaries as funds will allow.</p> <p>Life Seekers Aid is actively seeking more funding to allow us to extend the reach of projects like this, and to support the work we do supporting asylum seekers and refugees.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<p>At the end of this financial period, Life Seekers Aid has almost no reserve of unrestricted funds (£15.00).</p> <p>We are conscious that this could present some problems in the future, as it means we do not have the capacity to pay for small expenses and operating costs that we may incur as a charity.</p> <p>We will actively seek to secure some unrestricted funding over the next year.</p>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£15.00
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Life Seekers Aid holds almost no reserve of unrestricted funds because we have not yet received any unrestricted funding.
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

<p>The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)</p>	<p>Para 1.47</p>	<p>Life Seekers Aid's principal source of funding at present is from our corporate partnership with the Lush Charity Pot fund.</p>
<p>Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted</p>	<p>Para 1.46</p>	<p>At present, Life Seekers Aid does not invest funds that our allocated to us. We may review this as the charity grows.</p>
<p>A description of the principal risks facing the charity</p>	<p>Para 1.46</p>	
<p>Other</p>		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's		N/A
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) foundation constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<p>LSA seeks to appoint trustees with appropriate knowledge and experience that will help with the effective administration of the charity. Our governing document states the following.</p> <p>(1) Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.</p> <p>(2) In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.</p>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

### Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Life Seekers Aid
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Other name the charity uses	LSA
Registered charity number	1195995
Charity's principal address	Life Seekers Aid, 40 Loudoun Square, Cardiff CF10 5UZ, Wales



**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Office (if any)</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	<b>Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)</b>
1	Vicky Moller	Chair		
2	Alexander Thomas Bagenal	Treasurer		
3	Dr Francis William Arnold			
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20				

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Kenan Albeirakdar
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### Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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### Other optional information

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

<i>Alex Bagenal</i>	
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Full name(s)

Alexander Thomas	Bagenal
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Position (eg  
Secretary, Chair, etc)

Treasurer	
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Date

04.04.23
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**Receipts and payments accounts**

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For the period  
from

30/09/2021

To

01/04/2023

**Section A Receipts and payments**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Private donations	15	-	-	15	-
Lush Charity Pot donation	-0	3,000	-	3,000	-
	-0	-	-	-	-
	-0	-	-	-	-
	-0	-	-	-	-
	-0	-	-	-	-
	-0	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,015</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-0	-0	-0	-	-
	-0	-0	-0	-	-0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-0</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>3,015</b>	<b>-0</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Misc. expenses for asylum seekers workshops	-0	100	-	100	-
Design of leaflets for asylum seekers workshops	-0	302	-	302	-
	-0	-	-	-	-
	-0	-	-	-	-
	-0	-	-	-	-
	-0	-	-	-	-
	-0	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-0	-0	-0	-	-
	-0	-0	-0	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-0</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>-0</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2,598</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,613</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2,598</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,613</b>	<b>-</b>

**Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period**

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Unrestricted funds from private donations	15	-	-
	Lush Charity Pot restricted funding allocated for asylum workshops	-	2,598	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2,598</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name		Date of approval
	<i>Alex Bagenal</i>	Alexander Thomas Bagenal		05/04/2023