CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01/01/2025 Period start date To 31/12/2025
Period end date

Charity name: Association of the Bulgarian Community in Medway

Charity registration number: 1151138

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The objectives of the charity are: to promote the benefit of the Bulgarian citizens in Kent and the Medway area by: (a) the advancement of education and training; (b) the provision of recreational facilities in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving their conditions of life; (c) to advance education of the public on all aspects of the Bulgarian history and culture.
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.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	In 2025 ABCiM supported the following activities: **In relation to Objective a)** - Classes for adults: ABCiM continued with its adults' folk dancing class which was open to people from all abilities for fitness. The class brings together people from across Kent who have a shared love of Bulgarian folklore and dance. - Classes for children: The charity runs the Medway Bulgarian School - a Saturday school for children, which in 2025 was providing education to around 260 students from year R to

		year 8 in Bulgarian language, literature, history and geography. This education is recognized by the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and children returning to Bulgaria do not need to sit exams in these subjects but can go direct back to school. There were 4 folk dance classes for children, split into age groups. There was also a new reading club for children to help them with increasing their vocabulary, improving their reading skills and giving them confidence in communication in Bulgarian. **In relation to objective b)** ABCiM organised the celebration of several national holidays - the National Independence day in March, the day of the Cyrillic alphabet and Bulgarian language and culture in May; and the day of the champions of preservation of national identity and culture in November. There was also a Christmas concert and school fair in December, with a raffle, bazar of traditional hand-made items, Father Christmas grotto. The charity organised a martenitsas' bazar for the national celebration of the forthcoming spring which run on several days at the end of February. There was an exhibition of landscapes and national costumes and videos about archaeological sites in Bulgaria were shown at the concert in May. There was also a meeting with a Bulgarian children's books author about children's literature and favourite stories. The association also disseminated information to members about local events, concerts, sports clubs, etc. of interest to the community. **In relation to objective c**) ABCiM provided materials and presentations to local community

		groups. We lent national costumes to people who participated in work and school cultural events.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	When planning these activities, the trustees had due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

Additional information (optional)
You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	We value greatly the contribution by our volunteers, who have supported the work of the charity as teaching assistants, administrative assistants and members of the Parent's association.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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.	Para 1.20	In 2025 around 260 children were attending courses at the Medway Bulgarian school. Around 50 adults also benefitted from the adult folk dancing classes offered by the association. The Bulgarian school has benefitted people spread across a large geographic area – Kent and south-east London. The school has an important social benefit, not only for education, but wider - it brings people, who would otherwise be isolated and poorly informed, together and allows them to exchange information, share experiences and support each other. The charity has disseminated important information about local events, throughout the year though its Facebook pages and by email.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	At the end of the period, the charity was in a good financial position.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We do not hold reserves
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	We do not hold any reserves.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	The money is fully spent on the activities. The aim is to provide the services at a minimum cost to the community to allow as many people as possible to benefit.
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	There are no uncertainties at present

Additional information (optional)
You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The principal sources of funding are: - Course registration fees - Grants – the only grant in 2025 was the one received from the Bulgarian Ministry of Education - Fundraising at community events
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Change of the policy of the Bulgarian Ministry of Education could stop or reduce the grant they provide for the school. Unreasonable rise in rent could leave the Charity without premises.
Other		Political and economic changes may affect the living standards and circumstances of Bulgarian families living in Kent.

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	**constitution**
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	**association**
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	**Nominated and elected by the members.**

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	Association of the Bulgarian Community in Medway
Other name the charity uses	ABCiM
Registered charity number	1151138
Charity's principal address	Rochester Gramma School Maidstone Road Rochester ME1 3BY

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Desislava Zlateva	Chair		
2	Ralitsa Pavleva	Secretary		
3	David Best	Treasurer		
4				
5				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

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

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Iuliiana Best (Chief Executive)

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Other optional information

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	David Best	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer	

Date 29/09/2026

Association of the Bulgarian Community in Medway

Income and Expenditure Account

Year ended 31 December 2025

	£	£
INCOME		
Bulgarian Ministry for Education grant		44,460.24
Registrations and Contributions		34,439.00
Other Grants		0.00
Net Interest		0.00
TOTAL INCOME		**78,899.24**
EXPENDITURE		
Teaching Fees	49,000.50	
Room Hire	12,170.63	
Books & Costumes	4,224.03	
Office Exps/Sundries & Miscellaneous	12,381.47	
Legal & Professional/Bank Charges	90.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		**77,866.63**
EXCESS EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME		**1,032.61**

Balances brought forward:	£	£
Fixed Assets	1,907.99	
Nationwide Building Society	0.00	
Lloyds Bank Account	49,806.43	
Cash in Hand	2.84	
Excess expenditure over income for year	1,032.61	
Balances carried forward:		
Fixed Assets		1,907.99
Nationwide Building Society		0.00
Lloyds Bank Account		49,806.43
Unpresented cheques at year end		0.00
Cash in Hand		2.84
	51,717.26	**51,717.26**

I confirm that all relevant information and supporting documents have been made available for the preparation of the accounts for the year ending 31 December 2025 and that they present a true reflection of the activities carried out by the association.

Signed

Chair

Signed

Treasurer

Signed

Accountant

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A **Independent Examiner's Report**

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name Association of the Bulgarian Community in Medway		
On accounts for the year ended	31 December 2025	**Charity no (if any)**	1151138
Set out on pages	1 - 2		

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2025.

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

Signed:	V Finneran	**Date:**	21st Sept 2026
Name:	VIKKI FINNERAN FCCA		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	CHARTERED ASSOCIATION OF CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS (ACCA)		
Address:	11 CARDIGAN CLOSE, HIGH HALSTOW		
	ROCHESTER		
	ME3 8NX		

Section B **Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

NONE