REFUGEES WELCOME

Westminster Road Macclesfield SK10 1BX

Annual Report and Accounts 2025

Refugees Welcome Registered Charity No. 1169909

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Trustees' Annual Report for the Year ended 31 December 2025

Charity registration number: 1169909

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	1. To advance the education and training, in the area of Cheshire East, of those granted Refugee Status and their dependents in need thereof, so as to support them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community. 2. To provide relief from financial hardship and unemployment amongst those who have been granted refugee status and their dependents within the area of benefit.
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.	We maintain a close relationship with Cheshire East communities team although they no longer provide us with funding. We continue to provide volunteers to support Syrians who came to the UK through the VPRS scheme, as laid out by the Home Office, even though this scheme has now finished. The Syrian family settled in Nantwich are now British citizens and well integrated into the local community. The Syrian family who lived in Alsager has now moved to Macclesfield. Since September 2021 we are also supporting 5 Afghan refugee families under the ARAP scheme. A further 3 Afghan families arrived in September 2024 and a family from the Chagos Islands, with a different status, arrived in October 2024. Another Afghan family arrived in May 2025. Since March 2022 we have worked as an umbrella organisation alongside Cheshire East Council, to support Ukrainian refugees under the Homes for Ukraine Scheme. We work with CVS to recruit, select and manage more than 50 volunteers, who work with our families. The roles of the volunteers and the scope of their work are defined in role profiles and are one of three roles – Family Support Volunteer, Task Volunteer or English Practice Volunteer. Volunteers working with the Ukrainians also help with our Conversation Cafés and ESOL classes. All the volunteers go through safeguarding training in addition to training to become volunteers on the programme.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	The Trustees have had regard to guidance issued by the Charity commission on public benefit
Contribution made by volunteers	Volunteers working with Syrians and Afghans are assigned to individual families to carry out roles detailed above. Volunteers working with Ukrainians also help at the Conversation Café, which is held on the first Saturday of each month in Macclesfield. Our volunteers run and

	English classes each week in Macclesfield and Congleton.

Achievements and Performance

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.	VPRS Syrian families in Macclesfield and Congleton. We have continued to support 5 families, but with a very light touch. The mother and 2 children of one family have moved to Luton, leaving the father in Macclesfield. The younger children attend either school or college and English tuition is offered. Older children are either working or looking for work. Many of the Syrians have applied for British citizenship and some of them – especially the under 18s, have achieved this. CS (VPRS) Cheshire East – Nantwich The family in Nantwich have become British citizens. The parents and eldest child are in employment. The eldest daugher has achieved good A Level results and will go to University. The other children are in school. CS (VPRS) Cheshire East – Macclesfield This family is now well settled in Macclesfield. The children were accepted into school in Macclesfield. The father is working. ARAP scheme for AFGHAN refugees. Two families live in Crewe, one in Wistaston, one in Macclesfield and one in Alsager. The children all attend school regularly and adults in all 5 families have some type of paid employment. The Afghan families have settled very well and continue to thrive. One of the fathers runs successful shops and market stalls. Three more Afghan families arrived in Macclesfield and Bollington in September 2024. The younger children have settled well in school. Older children and fathers are working. There are medical problems in all 3 families, but they are being treated appropriately. A further Afghan family arrived in May 2025. The mother is a highly qualified doctor, so she is studying to equalise her qualifications with Uk qualifications. Most of the Ukrainian families were guests living within sponsor or host households in Cheshire East. The vast majority of the relationships have worked very well. Many of the Ukrainians have now been rehoused with the help of our furniture and removals service. The previously known Congleton Area Ukraine Support Network (CAUSN), which, at the end of 2024 was working very closely with Refugees Welcome Cheshire East, has now merged with Refugees Welcome and has become part of our charity.

Achievements against objectives set	In spite of our independence from Cheshire East, we have continued to work successfully with all our refugee groups. Cheshire East still values our input and we have found our merger with CAUSN has been of benefit to both organisations. All our refugee groups continue to thrive. In the Autumn of 2025 we put on 2 events to mark the fact that we have been in existence for 10 years. The first was a barbecue and dance in September. The second, more formal Event, was to thank our trustees, volunteers and other supporters. It was attended by approximately 200 people including many of the refugees as well as dignitaries from all over the county. All the refugee groups made speeches and there were musical contributions from the refugee groups. The refugees baked an amazing array of traditional cakes and biscuits.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Boundless has been a successful fundraising scheme. We have received donations from other individuals and from organisations such as Rotary and local churches. We are working hard to find one or more major sponsors. We are still carrying out research into sources of funding. These for 2025 are detailed below.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	At the end of the year, the charity had a surplus of £35,097.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Our policy is to hold 6 months running costs in reserve.

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:	None
Type of governing document	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	Refugees Welcome is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation
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	Appointed by interview and vote of members of the Board of Trustees.
Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	All our policies appear on the : RefugeesWelcome.co.uk website.

The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	The charity is run by a Board of Trustees. Our volunteers are organised by a paid member of CVSCE (Community & Voluntary Services, Cheshire East)

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)
Nicola Campbell	Chair		
Mrs Anne Towers	Trustee		
Mr Anthony Smith	Trustee		
Mr David Raines	Trustee		
Mr Paul Nixon	Trustee		
Mr Mark Buttle	Trustee		
Mrs Judith Mayer	Trustee	Resigned July 2025	

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

Robert Alan Brown BA FCA
Treasurer

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	NA Campbell	A Towers
Full name(s)	Nicola Ann Campbell	Anne Towers
Position	Chair	
Date	10 September 2026	10 September 2026

REFUGEES WELCOME

Receipts and Payments account

Year Ended 31 December 2024		Year Ended 31 December 2025		
		General Fund	Restricted Funds	Total
£		£	£	£
	RECEIPTS			
7,230	Grants	420	15,721	16,141
3,641	Gift Aided Donations	3,596		3,596
15,557	Other Donations	12,134		12,134
170	Fund Raising	1,980		1,980
3,204	Misc Income	4,923		4,923
29,802		23,053	15,721	38,774
	PAYMENTS			
2,453	Insurance	2,541		2,541
9,431	CVS	6,573	10,632	17,205
242	Travel	2,825	841	3,666
164	Printing, Stationery & Computer	175	152	327
11,962	Housing Support	6,843	941	7,784
1,757	Tuition	3,432	1,782	5,214
3,249	Expenses	3,228	1,813	5,041
29,258		25,617	16,161	41,778
544	SURPLUS/(SHORTFALL)	(2,564)	(440)	(3,004)
37,557	BANK BALANCE at 1 January 2025	31,251	6,850	38,101
38,101	BANK BALANCE at 31 December 2025	28,687	6,410	35,097
	STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	at 31 December 2025		
	Monetary Assets			
38,101	Cash at Bank	28,687	6,410	35,097
	Non-Monetary Assets & Liabilities			
—	None	—	—	—
38,101	Total Assets and Liabilities	28,687	6,410	35,097

Restricted Funds		Amount Received	Amount Expended	Balance
		£	£	£
Homes for Ukraine	Balance brought forward	6,850	6,850	0
RSMP VCFSE ESOL Grant [1]		0	5,088	(5,088)
RSMP Young Person's Language Grant [2]		0	667	(667)
Cheshire East Council Enabling Prosperity and Wellbeing Grant		9,996	3,506	6,490
CVSCE Grant programme for Adult Mental Health.		5,725	50	5,675
		22,571	16,161	6,410

Notes

1 Grant amount of £12,700 not received until 7 January 2026

2 Grant amount of £3,600 not received until 2 March 2026

Adopted by the Trustees on 10 September 2026

NA Campbell

Nicola Ann Campbell
Chair of Trustees

A Towers

Anne Towers
Trustee

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Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/ members of	**Refugees Welcome**		
On accounts for the year ended	**31 December 2025**	**Charity no**	**1169909**
Set out on pages	**1 to 5**		

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 December 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:	B Coghlan	**Date:**	9th September 2026
Name:	**Bryan John Coghlan**		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	**Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales**		
Address:	**379, Crewe Road, Wistaston, Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 6NW**		