Trustees' annual report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	04	2025		31	03	2026

Reference and administration details

Charity name	***Sudanese Community in Portsmouth and around***
Other names charity is known by	**SCIP**
Registered charity number	***1190685***
Charity's principal address	**27 Alec Rose Lane PO1 2RY PORTSMOUTH**

Names of the charity trustees:

	Trustee name	Office
1	Bashir Ahmed Abdalla	Chair
2	Bakhit Ismail Mohamed	Treasurer
3	Osman Ibrahim Fadlalla	Secretary

Name of executives:

Mohamed Ibrahim, Reem Hassan, Abdelkarim Hamad and Adam Musa

Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	**Constitution adopted 12 September 2019**
How the charity is constituted	**Unincorporated association**
Trustee selection methods	**Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the Annual General Meeting held in July**

Additional governance issues:

Membership of the organisation is open to all people from Sudanese origin who reside in Portsmouth locality and its surroundings. The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for the governance, strategic direction and legal compliance of the charity. The Executive Team is responsible for the day-to-day management and delivery of the charity's activities within the authority delegated to it by the Board. The Board retains ultimate responsibility for the charity and provides appropriate oversight of the Executive Team.

There is a child protection policy in place. Criminal Records Bureau checks are carried out prior to commencement of volunteering or trusteeship and checks are carried out again in line with statutory requirements.

SCIP is partnered with The Sudanese Community School in Portsmouth with whom we jointly undertake some activities which aimed to help children and youths such as Homework Club and skills sessions.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and received no remuneration or other benefits.

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document	**To promote the advancement of citizenship and community development for the public benefit by working with people in and around Portsmouth who are socially excluded on the grounds of their ethnic origin, religion, belief or creed, in particular members of the Sudanese community, to relieve the needs of such people and assist them to integrate into society.**
Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects	**In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustee meetings.** **During the year, the Sudanese Community in Portsmouth continued to provide support and services to Sudanese families and the wider community in Portsmouth and surrounding areas. The organisation is community-led and relies significantly on volunteers to deliver its activities. Our activities focused on promoting community wellbeing, education, cultural identity, social inclusion and mutual support. Although the organisation was established to support the Sudanese community, our activities have also benefited people from a wider range of backgrounds, including families from other African, Middle Eastern and Asian communities. These activities benefit members their self-confidence and social skills, raise their health aware skills and address issues of isolations, social inclusion and integration in society.**

Additional details of objectives and activities:

We are grateful for the many hours volunteers, including member volunteers, have spent delivering our activities. Without this valuable contribution of time, energy and expertise we would not have been able to achieve so much.

Achievements and performance

Community and Family Support

During the reporting year, the Sudanese Community in Portsmouth continued to provide a welcoming and supportive point of contact for members of the community. The organisation helped individuals and families access information, advice and guidance, while volunteers provided practical assistance and signposted them to appropriate local services and sources of support.

Where individuals and families experienced financial hardship, social challenges or difficult personal circumstances, the organisation provided appropriate assistance within the limits of its available resources. This included supporting families in need and contributing towards essential community welfare needs.

Employment and Practical Support

The organisation provided practical assistance to help community members access employment opportunities and navigate official application processes. This included helping individuals complete and submit job application forms, providing references for employment and other official purposes, and supporting community members with applications for British naturalisation and passports. During the reporting year, the organisation provided four references to support official applications.

The organisation also assisted young asylum seekers and refugees with translation, interpreting and housing-related matters. This support helped individuals understand housing procedures, communicate effectively with relevant services and navigate unfamiliar administrative systems.

Women's Empowerment and Community Engagement

The organisation actively supported and participated in initiatives promoting women's empowerment, inclusion and community development. Through these activities, it encouraged community participation, strengthened relationships and supported women's involvement in the social and cultural life of the community.

Overall Community Impact

Through these activities, the Sudanese Community in Portsmouth continued to promote community wellbeing, reduce isolation, encourage mutual support and improve access to essential services and opportunities. The organisation remained committed to supporting vulnerable individuals and families, promoting inclusion and helping community members work towards greater independence and integration into the wider Portsmouth community.

Ramadan Iftar and Social Inclusion

During the holy month of Ramadan, the Sudanese Community in Portsmouth organised a community Iftar every Saturday, bringing together Sudanese families, people from other communities and guests from local organisations and institutions.

The gatherings were particularly valuable for young people from the Sudanese community and other minority groups, as well as asylum seekers, some of whom experienced loneliness and social isolation. The Iftars provided a welcoming space where they could meet others, build friendships, share experiences and feel part of a wider community.

Through shared dishes and the opportunity to taste traditional Sudanese food, attendees learned about each other's cultures and traditions while enjoying a sense of belonging and togetherness. The events also welcomed representatives and guests from local authorities, the police, Portsmouth Historic Dockyard and the University of Portsmouth.

These gatherings supported the community's aims of reducing social isolation, promoting inclusion and strengthening relationships between people from different backgrounds across Portsmouth.

Eid Celebrations

During the year, the Sudanese Community in Portsmouth and surrounding areas celebrated both Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha through community events that brought together families, children, elders and friends to celebrate Sudanese culture, traditions and faith.

Eid al-Fitr

The Eid al-Fitr celebration, held shortly after the end of Ramadan at Buckland Community Centre, brought together a large number of families and community members.

Members of the community prepared and shared traditional Sudanese dishes and sweets. Children took part in a range of activities, including games and a bouncy castle, while many attendees wore traditional Sudanese clothing. The event provided an opportunity for families to

socialise, celebrate together and share Sudanese cultural traditions in a welcoming environment.

Eid al-Adha

The Eid al-Adha celebration was held at Southsea Common as an open-air community BBQ. Families and friends gathered to share food, refreshments and social activities in an informal outdoor setting.

Members of the community contributed food, while volunteers supported the organisation of the event and helped with the BBQ. The gathering provided an opportunity for families to spend time together, for children to play and for community members to build and strengthen social connections.

Both Eid celebrations were open to guests from different backgrounds, helping to promote inclusion, community cohesion and understanding of Sudanese culture and traditions within the wider Portsmouth community.

The trustees would like to thank the volunteers, organisers and community members whose contributions helped make these events possible.

Bereavement and Family Support

During the year, the community sadly experienced the loss of one of its young members. The Sudanese Community in Portsmouth came together to support the bereaved family during this difficult time.

Community volunteers assisted with the organisation of the funeral arrangements and coordinated a community fundraising effort to help meet funeral-related costs. Members of the community contributed financially and practically, reflecting the strong spirit of mutual support within the community.

The community also expressed its condolences and provided bereavement support to the family following their loss. This response demonstrated the importance of the organisation as a source of practical, social and emotional support for families during times of difficulty.

The trustees are grateful to all members and volunteers who contributed their time, resources and support to the family.

Visit to the British Museum – Cultural Recognition

As a recognition of the Sudanese Community in Portsmouth's contribution to the Ancient Sudanese Civilisation exhibition held last year, Portsmouth Museum kindly organised a community visit to the British Museum in London. The visit was both an educational and celebratory experience, acknowledging the role our members played in enriching the exhibition with personal items and cultural knowledge.

Community members who had contributed to the exhibition — by loaning objects or helping with the Sudanese Cultural Day — were invited to take part in the visit. It provided a wonderful opportunity to explore Sudan's

historical legacy within one of the world's most prominent museums and to see artefacts and narratives that connect directly with our heritage.

The trip also helped deepen the connection between our community and cultural institutions in the UK, and strengthened our relationship with Portsmouth Museum, whose staff have shown continued support and respect for our culture.

Such initiatives are valuable in making communities feel seen, respected, and included in the broader cultural landscape of the city and the country. We are grateful to Portsmouth Museum for their partnership and recognition.

Cultural Heritage and Museum Collaboration

Following the Sudanese community's contribution to exhibitions on ancient Sudan at Portsmouth Museum, representatives of Royal Navy Museums recognised the value of the community's cultural knowledge and expertise and invited its assistance with a further heritage project.

The community supported the identification and classification of historical items acquired during the colonial era, helping to prepare descriptions and recommend selected items for public display. These items have since been displayed at the museum.

This collaboration enabled members of the Sudanese community to contribute their knowledge and perspectives to the interpretation and presentation of Sudanese heritage. It also helped raise awareness of Sudan's rich history and cultural significance among museum visitors and the wider public.

The initiative reflects the community's commitment to preserving cultural heritage, promoting historical understanding and building constructive partnerships with local cultural institutions in Portsmouth.

Educational Visits and Community Engagement

Following the community's contribution to the museum's work on Sudanese heritage, Royal Navy Museums invited members of the Sudanese community to participate in a guided museum visit.

Approximately 30 community members, including women and children, attended the visit. Participants enjoyed a valuable educational experience, learning about maritime history and exploring the museum's collections.

The visit provided an opportunity for families and children to learn outside the classroom, engage with local heritage and develop a greater appreciation of Portsmouth's maritime history. It also strengthened the relationship between the Sudanese community and Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, encouraging further cultural exchange and community engagement.

The trustees welcome this collaboration as an example of how community partnerships can promote learning, inclusion and mutual understanding.

Community Partnerships and Interfaith Engagement

During the year, representatives of the Sudanese Community in Portsmouth participated in several collaborative events organised by local cultural, faith and community organisations. These activities strengthened relationships with other communities and provided opportunities to demonstrate solidarity, share experiences and promote mutual understanding.

Our representatives participated in the Royal Navy Museum's Diwali celebrations, joining others in recognising and celebrating Indian cultural and religious traditions. They also attended the Kurdish community's Halabja memorial ceremony, demonstrating solidarity and respect for remembrance and the experiences of other communities.

The community also took part in a public Iftar at St Mary's Church, bringing people of different faiths and backgrounds together during Ramadan and promoting interfaith dialogue, friendship and mutual respect.

In addition, representatives visited the new Muslim cemetery at Milton Cemetery, an opportunity to learn about this important facility serving the Muslim community and its role in meeting religious and community needs.

Through these activities, the Sudanese Community in Portsmouth continued to build positive relationships with other cultural and faith communities, encourage participation in local events and contribute to a more inclusive and cohesive Portsmouth.

Building Relationships with Local Authorities and Public Services

During the reporting year, the Sudanese Community in Portsmouth continued to develop and strengthen relationships with local authorities and public services to promote community safety, improve communication and encourage positive engagement.

The organisation is represented on the Independent Advisory Group (IAG) and works as a community partner with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary. These partnerships provide valuable opportunities for dialogue, cooperation and the exchange of information between the community and public service representatives.

Regular meetings have been held to discuss community safety, hate crime awareness and day-to-day issues affecting Sudanese residents. These discussions help ensure that community concerns are heard, relevant issues are raised with the appropriate organisations and opportunities for joint working are identified.

Through these partnerships, the organisation aims to build trust, promote mutual understanding, strengthen community relations and support a safer, more inclusive environment for Sudanese residents and the wider Portsmouth community.

Cultural Heritage, Women's Contributions and University Collaboration

A distinguished member of our community, Professor Nafisa Bedri, hosted a live conversation exploring the powerful role of Sudanese women in the context of conflict, resistance and cultural transformation.

The event was held at the University of Portsmouth, in collaboration with the University, AEGIS (Advancement of Equality, Gender and Inclusion Studies), the Sudanese Community in Portsmouth and the National Museum of the Royal Navy. It attracted a diverse audience and provided a platform to discuss the experiences, contributions and resilience of Sudanese women and their role in shaping society and cultural identity.

The conversation was accompanied by a display of items and artefacts representing Sudanese heritage, giving attendees an opportunity to learn more about Sudan's rich cultural traditions and history.

The event strengthened links between the Sudanese community, academic institutions and cultural organisations. It also raised awareness of Sudanese heritage, highlighted the contributions of Sudanese women and encouraged cultural exchange and mutual understanding among people from different backgrounds.

This initiative reflected the community's commitment to preserving cultural heritage, promoting education and fostering constructive engagement with the wider Portsmouth community.

Humanitarian Aid and Emergency Relief

During the year, the Sudanese Community in Portsmouth organised a fundraising appeal in response to the humanitarian crisis affecting displaced people in and around El Fasher, a city in western Sudan, and Zamzam camp on the outskirts of the city.

Through the generosity and collective efforts of community members and supporters, £2,179.15 was raised to support displacement camps and soup kitchens in El Fasher and Zamzam. The assistance was intended to help people affected by the conflict and displacement, particularly vulnerable groups including children, women and older people.

As a community with strong ties to Sudan, we felt a responsibility to stand in solidarity with our people back home during this period of extreme hardship. Although based in Portsmouth, our members came together to contribute towards meeting urgent humanitarian needs and supporting those facing displacement, food insecurity and difficult living conditions.

This initiative demonstrated the community's commitment to compassion, mutual responsibility and humanitarian assistance to vulnerable people affected by the crisis in Sudan.

Public Benefit

The trustees consider that these activities furthered the organisation's charitable purposes by providing educational, cultural, social and welfare benefits to children, families and other members of the community.

The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when planning and carrying out the organisation's activities. The trustees consider that the benefits provided through the organisation's activities were available to the intended beneficiaries and that any private benefit arising from the activities was incidental to the wider public benefit.

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	**Cash at bank at the end of financial year was £1703.30 in unrestricted funds.** **The funds are held to meet any unforeseen expenditure that may occur.**
Details of any funds materially	**Not applicable**
Further financial review details	**Our main source of funds this year has been members contribution, donations and fundraising event.** **We use general funds to meet the cost for activities programs focused on young people, skills sessions for newly arrived refugees and social inclusion activities.**

Other optional information

Future Plans	**In the coming year, the community will continue to focus on supporting young people, children and newcomers to Portsmouth, helping them access educational opportunities, develop skills and integrate into the wider community.** **We aim to develop dedicated programmes for women and young people, including skills-development workshops, training sessions and academic support. These initiatives will seek to build confidence, encourage personal development and improve opportunities for participants.** **We are also exploring opportunities to secure a suitable venue that could serve as a community centre, providing a stable and accessible base for our educational, cultural and social activities. We are currently in discussions with a property owner regarding the possibility of using a potential venue.** **Through these plans, we hope to expand our activities, reach more people in need of support and strengthen our contribution to the wellbeing, inclusion and development of the wider community**

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signature(s)	*B Mohamed*
Full name	**Bakhit Ismail Mohamed**
Position	**Trustee**

20 October 2026

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees of	**Sudanese Community in and Around Portsmouth**
On accounts for the year ended	**31st March 2026**
Attached	**Budget report attached**
Responsibilities and basis of report	**I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026.** **As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("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:** • **accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or** • **the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.** **I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.**

Signed	**B I Mohamed**
Name	**Bashir Mohamed**
Date	**20/10/2026**
Relevant professional qualification	**Bsc Accounting** **Partly ACCA qualified**

Sudanese Community in and around Portsmouth

Date: 20 Sep 2026

Budget Report

1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026

Revenue and expenditure statement

A	Revenue	
1	Balance forwarded	£1686.49
2	Humanitarian appeal (Zamzam and Elfasher)	£2179.15
3	Bereavement and family suport donations	£3544.00
4	Funeral support donations	£1313.00
5	Members' contribution and Eid Al Adha (2025) donations	£2920.00
6	Ramadan (2026) fundraising appeal	£3510.00
7	Donations	£350.00
Total		**£15,502.64**
B	**Expense**	
1	Eid Al adha (2025) celebration	£2215.09
2	Humanitarian aids for displaced people in Zamzam camp and Elfasher	£2179.98
3	Bereavement and family support	£3235.77
4	Funeral support contribution	£1313.00
5	Web hosting	£69.47
6	Zoom subscription	£154.66
7	Venue hiring	£2331.81
8	Audit Fee	£100.00
9	Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr expenses	£1369.87
10	Administration expenses	£378.75
11	Cultural event expense	£450.00
Total		**£13798.87**
Balance at the end of financial year (A – B)		**£1703.30**

Account details:

TREASURERS ACCOUNT
SUDANESE COMMUNITY IN PORTSMOUTH
LLOYDS BANK
Sort Code: 30-98-97
Account Number: 86442460