CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st January 2023 Period start date To Period end date

Charity name: British Somali Medical Foundation

Charity registration number: 1194268

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 charity, as set out in its CIO constitution, are: (1) the relief and prevention of sickness and the advancement of health of the UK Somali community, by supporting and advocating for the physical and mental health needs of the community, including by providing information, advice and advocacy on healthcare-related issues and organising workshops, conferences, seminars and lectures to educate community members on pertinent healthcare topics; and (2) the promotion of equality and diversity within the healthcare sector for the public benefit, by encouraging and enabling students from the British Somali community and other underrepresented groups to apply to UK medical schools, including by providing advice and guidance to young people throughout their application cycle through mentorship, seminars and workshops.
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	During the period the charity's purposes were pursued through volunteer-delivered activity, principally: mentorship and guidance for aspiring medical students from the British Somali community and other underrepresented backgrounds throughout the medical school application cycle; and community health education through workshops, seminars and talks on healthcare topics relevant to the British Somali community. All activities were delivered by volunteers at no cost to the charity.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have	Para 1.18	The trustees confirm that they have had regard

had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit		to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its activities for the year.

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

	SORP reference	
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	The charity's work is delivered entirely by volunteers, principally doctors and medical students drawn from the membership of the British Somali Medical Association (BSMA), who give their time, expertise and organisational support at no cost to the charity.
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	The charity's principal achievements during 2023 were: 1. BSMA Scholar Programme — the programme ran again in 2023, providing free structured mentorship and application support to eight aspiring medical students from the British Somali community and other underrepresented backgrounds. Of the eight students supported, five received more than one offer of a place at medical school, and a further student was placed on a medical school waiting list. Comparable private application support and tutoring is costly and out of reach for many of the charity's beneficiaries; the programme was provided entirely free of charge, materially widening access to medical careers for students without professional networks. 2. Networking dinner — the charity organised a networking dinner bringing together around 180 medical students and doctors, fostering mentorship connections, peer support and professional development across the British Somali medical community, from aspiring applicants to senior clinicians. All of this work was delivered by volunteers who gave their time and expertise freely, at no cost to the charity or its beneficiaries

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	The charity received no income and incurred no expenditure during the period. Total receipts were £0 and total payments were £0, and the charity held no funds at the period end. The charity's activities were delivered by volunteers, with costs (including those of the networking dinner) funded and administered through the British Somali Medical Association, including sponsorship income received directly by the BSMA. No funds relating to these activities passed through the charity.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Given the scale of the charity's financial activity during the period, the trustees did not consider it necessary to hold reserves. The trustees will keep the need for a formal reserves policy under review as the charity's income grows.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£0
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	The charity received no income during the period; its activities were delivered by volunteers at no cost, so no reserves were required or held.
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	None — the charity held no funds in deficit.
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	There are no uncertainties to declare or explain.

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	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy		

adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Trust deed
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	The charity is constituted as a 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	Trustees are selected by committee members of the British Somali Medical Association. The Chair of the Charity (Dr Zakariye Ashkir) is responsible for approving trustees.

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	British Somali Medical Foundation
Other name the charity uses	BSMF
Registered charity number	1194268
Charity's principal address	Kemp House 152-160 City Road London EC1V 2NX

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	Dr Zakariye Ashkir	Chair		
	2	Dr Guleed Adan	Trustee		
	3	Dr Samira Hassan	Trustee		
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
n/a		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
n/a		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	0
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	n/a
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	n/a

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)		

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)	Zakariye Ashkir
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair
Date	20/07/26